

Memories of Gary / Gary's Comes / Sayings of Gary

Gary Story – From his Mom

One of Gary's favorite things to do was to play jokes on people. That is why he loved April Fool's Day. One April Fool's Day, Gary came up to me and said "Hey Mom somebody painted your car purple." Of course, I went down to look at my car in the garage and Gary said "April Fool". I went back upstairs and told Gary's dad that Gary had played a joke on me. Gary then turned to his Dad and said "What about you Dad, somebody painted your car purple too!" His Dad said "Gary, you can't use the same story, you have to change it". Gary then said "What about Orange". *Used*

Another story from Gary's Mom

Gary was in the hospital after falling off his bike. He had to have surgery on his jaw and had to have his teeth wired shut for eight weeks. Gary told us that a priest had come by the night before his surgery. I asked what Father had said. Gary then made the blessing sign and Father said to him "I hope you live" and I did - He then looked up to the sky and said "Thanks, God".

Gary Story – From his Uncle Joe

Gary's Uncle Joe was visiting from California. Gary and Uncle Joe took Gary's cousins to a farm for horseback riding. Uncle Joe took a picture of Gary by the horse. Uncle Joe teased Gary when they were riding back to the house and said - "When I get the pictures developed, I will have to label who is the horse and who is Gary" Gary immediately piped up - "Real nice, Uncle Joe - I'm the one wearing the red shirt".

GARY S EARLY YEARS

1. We tried a little behavior modification with Gary to encourage him to behave on the bus. The way it was supposed to work was -
 - a. If Gary behaved on the bus - the bus driver would give him a report slip with a smiling face. He would then get a pop and snack after school.
 - b. If he misbehaved on the bus - the bus driver would give him a report slip with a frowning face. Of course, he would not get a pop or a snack after school.

Well - one day Gary came home from school and went immediately to his room. I called for him and asked for the slip from the bus driver. He came out with the report slip showing a face grinning from ear to ear. I asked him if he had changed the face to a smiling face - he looked down and nodded, saying - "But, Mom I wanted my pop!" I sent him to "Time Out" and then talked to him and said "What do you think the bus driver will say when she sees that you changed her frowning face to a smiling face". (He never thought about that) He said Oh - I better change it back before she sees it - OK?

2. I arrived at First Creek School in Aurora to find Gary on the stage with some other students running for Student Council. He was telling his class mates that if they voted for him, he would get a pool table for the school. One little girl stood up and asked Gary if she voted for him, would he stop kissing all of the other girls. He replied "No Way - I love kissing girls!"

RELATIONSHIP WITH BROTHER AND SISTER

Rich and Cheryl were always very protective of their brother. At times, they had to contend with other children in the neighborhood calling him names. They loved their brother and always stepped in when necessary. Rich was always the big brother, and Cheryl was his second Mother.

1. One time Gary and Rich were playing on our Cul de Sac, and several nuns were visiting. Gary and Rich ran up to the nuns. One of the nuns asked Gary what his name was. Rich immediately piped up "He doesn't talk too well, he's retarded". Gary replied - "No Retarded - I'm Gary".
2. The neighborhood bully used to like to push Gary down. One time I looked out and there was Cheryl beating up the bully. I waited until she came inside, and she was so excited, and started yelling "Byron won't push Gary down any more He went home crying to his Mom."
3. Gary participated in the swimming meets at our neighborhood pool. He would stop in the middle of the race and yell "Cheer for me" or "Do I get pop and potato chips when I'm done?"

A STORY FROM GARY'S UNCLE

My brother, Joe and Gary went to a farm where Gary's cousins went horseback riding. Joe took a picture of Gary and one of the horses. Joe teased Gary and said - "When I get the picture developed, I will have to label whose the horse and whose Gary". Gary immediately piped up - "Real nice - Uncle Joe. I'm the one wearing the red shirt!"

GARY AND KIKI

When Kiki was a puppy, we found her digging in one of our plants. Gary picked her up, took her into the room and proceeded to lecture her. When he came back he said "Kiki is grounded for two weeks!".

GARY IN THE HOSPITAL

1. About 12 years ago, Gary fell off his bike and broke ^{the} his condial in his jaw. He had to have his teeth wired shut for eight weeks. Gary told us that a priest had come to see him the night before his operation. I said "Oh - What did Father say to you?" He made the blessing sign - and said "I hope you live, And - I did. He looked up to the sky and then said "Thanks - God!

GARY - PRACTICING FOR HIS FIRST COMMUNION

1. When Gary was going to catechism class for his First Communion, I thought I should review his lesson. I said - "What do you say when the priest holds up the host and says THE BODY OF CHRIST. " Gary replied : "I say - Hi Lord".

GARY - GOLF STORIES

1. While out golfing one evening, Gary and I hit our balls and landed in front of the ditch. I, then hit my ball and ended up in the ditch. Gary looked at the ditch took a practice swing, stopped and made the sign of the cross, and hit his ball across the ditch.
2. When we arrived at the green, Gary proceeded to line up his putt, by bending on his knees, stretching out the club and going on the other side of the putt. I asked him what he was doing and he replied -"Mom - that's what professional golfers do!"
3. Gary came home from golfing with his buddies, Matt and Jeff, and was so excited about how he scored. He said he got a 4 on a Par 4. I found out that his friends were hitting his drives out on the fairway, and Gary then continued to hit the ball from that point. I asked him how he got over the lakes on the Mountain. He said his friends helped him a little bit. (They hit his ball over the lake for him.)
4. I told Gary that we had signed him up for golf lessons for Special Olympics. He looked at me and said - "I don't need golf lessons - I've been golfing for years. I told him that even Professional golfers take lessons. He replied "My dad's a professional - and he taught me everything I know."

MCDONALD STORIES

1. Gary worked with an older lady named, Effie. He used to kiss and hug her a lot. One day, Gary's boss, Harold, said "What about me?" Gary said "You're not my type!".
2. Gary called me from work to announce he had another raise. He said "Prepare yourself, Mom. I just got a fifteen cent an hour raise." When he got home I read his performance appraisal, and praised him for doing such a good job. He beamed and then said - "I always help the mothers with their babies - helping them with their trays. Then, I kiss the babies on the top of their head." I said - "I don't know if you're supposed to do that" - He replied "Mom - that's how you get raises!".
3. Whenever Gary wins a medal in Special Olympics, he always says - "Now I get free breakfast and lunch at McDonalds." He also makes the rounds to friends in the shopping complex . The last time he won three medals at the swimming he thought he should get free lunch for a month.

GARY - RICH AND LAURA'S WEDDING

- 1. We had arrived in Louisville, the hometown of our daughter-in-law, Laura, and were going to meet her parents for the first time. On the way to the house, Rich was bragging about Laura's cooking. He said, however, that he wanted me to show her how to make gravy. Later on, while eating dinner, Rich again bragged about Laura's cooking and proceeded to put a piece of meat in his mouth. Gary looked at his brother and said "What about her gravy, Rich?" Rich started choking and looked daggers at Gary. Laura said - "I thought you liked my gravy - Rich - You said you liked it".**
- 2. At the rehearsal dinner, Gary gave a toast that brought a lot of tears to everyone's eyes. He recalled how when his brother would come home late he would hide in his bed. Rich would lay on top of him and comment how lumpy the bed was. Gary said "I have a lot of memories of you - Rich - and I really miss you a lot!**

GARY - SEX EDUCATION

1. At one time, Gary was a fan of the TV show - Dallas. He had a major crush on Pam. He was so upset when she went off the show. He kept saying that maybe she'll come out of the shower - just like Bobby did. He told me that he had a dream that he finally met Pam on Dallas. He was visiting in Dallas and Pam came up to him to talk to him. He said "I kissed Pam in my dream". I asked "Was it great?" He said "It made me a little sleepy." I asked - "Why sleepy?" He replied "Well - you know when you make love - you go to bed - and then go to sleep".

ANOTHER GARY STORY

One time we had ^{our} a carpet cleaned, and locked the garage door. Somehow Gary went around, opened the side door to the garage and walked on the wet carpet. Carl said, "Gary - didn't you think it was funny that we had closed the garage door?" Gary replied "I'm not laughing - do you see me laughing about it"?



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"Hey you guys, cheer for me." He continued on with the race but then stopped again, looked at me and said, "Mom, do I get potato chips, when I'm done?"

Needless to say, Gary brought so much laughter to everyone. It had to be one of the funniest swim meets ever. By the way, Gary won the fifth place ribbon out of five swimmers, and he was delighted.

– Sylvia Plumery

If you would like to submit stories for inclusion in Gary's Corner email Rich at Plumery@aol.com.

Gary's Corner

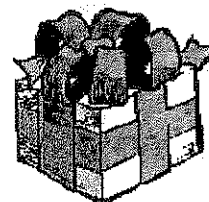
There are so many "Gary Stories" that I have shared with friends and family these past years. My grandson, Austin, loves hearing the stories and asks me to tell them over and over again.

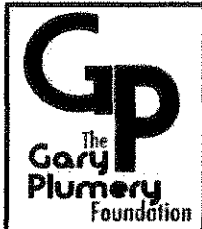
Austin's favorite story is when Gary was only eight years old and we were living in Davenport, Iowa. That year Gary participated in a swim meet, and they let him swim with the five year old boys. Before the race, two of the five year old boys came up to me and said they were going to let Gary win the race. I told them to swim just as fast as they could; that Gary didn't really need to win; he just loved getting a ribbon.

During the race, Gary heard all of the parents cheering for their children, and he stopped in the middle of the race and yelled,

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As you can imagine, shopping for gifts this time of year for an extra 50 or so deserving individuals is fun, rewarding, and time consuming. If you would like to volunteer for this or any other activity, please contact Sylvia Plumery at (303) 841-4896.





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Gary's Corner

This issue's *Gary's Corner* features the special memories Carissa and Laura Plumery have of Gary.

My fondest memory of Gary may not have been one of his funniest moments but it was definitely the one that sticks out the most to me now. Gary and I would always fight over our dog Missy. I, being only 6 or 7, always wanted her to come home with me and Gary adored Missy and hated to give her up for the night. However, every time he would say "I love you Carissa and if you want Missy for the night you can have her." That is just one of the many examples of how truly generous and caring Gary was. --Carissa Plumery

When I first moved from Hawaii to Denver, I lived with Gary, Carl and Sylvia for about eight months. It was a big adjustment for him when Carissa and I came to live with him downstairs in his "compartment" - that's what Gary called it. Sylvia had to convince him to give me a shelf in his bathroom which he wasn't too happy about. But after a couple of weeks, Gary got used to sharing his space with us. Eventually, I became one of Gary's favorite people when I had cable TV installed in the guest bedroom downstairs next to his room. He would come in every night at 10:00 and would rub my feet if I would let him watch *Dallas*. Since the foot rub only took a few minutes and *Dallas* lasted an hour, I believe Gary

got the best end of this deal! Since Gary's room was next to mine, I could hear him every night around midnight talking to "Mr. Spock" and "Scotty" since he was a Trekie. I also remember every Thursday was Gary's day off from McDonald's so he would surprise me by cleaning up my room and making up the bed. However, I could never find anything I had left on the dresser. Gary's idea of cleaning up was to put everything that was on the dresser anywhere he could find empty drawer space. When I asked him about my missing items, he simply forgot where he had placed them. But with Gary it was always the thought that counted and his heart was always in the right place which made him the special person that he was. Laura Plumery

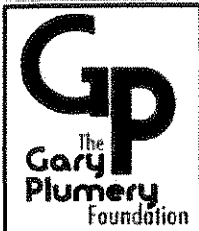
If you would like to submit stories for inclusion in Gary's Corner, email Rich at Plumery@aol.com.

Sixth Annual Holiday Wish List Campaign

The Gary Plumery Foundation hosted a Holiday Party for Developmental Pathway clients to distribute the Wish List gifts on December 18, 2006. The Developmental Pathways clients were treated to pizza, soft drinks and traditional Christmas desserts.

The Wish List gifts ranged from comforters, bedspreads, sheets, clothing, winter coats, and shoes to headboards, dining room sets, dressers and televisions. The clients expressed their happiness with many hugs and Thank You's.

The volunteers for the Wish List Party included Carl, Sylvia, Rich, Laura and Carissa Plumery and Kevin, Cheryl and Austin Kassner, as well as Carissa Plumery's classmates from Mullen High School, Whitney Lyle and Brittany Lancaster. All expressed how much they enjoyed this rewarding experience.



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Gary's Corner

This time we would like to share some stories about Gary's special relationship with his father, Carl. It always appeared that Carl was very strict with Gary, but in reality, Gary knew how to work his Dad pretty well. For example, whenever Gary was reprimanded by his Dad, he would walk over to him, rub his back and say "Come On, Dad – you're my best friend!" Of course Carl would then relent.

Our niece, Marilyn tells us about her memory of the time Gary and his dad returned from watching Star Trek at the movie theatre, and she asked how the movie was. Gary replied that he didn't get any nachos. She then turned to Carl and asked why he didn't buy Gary any nachos. However, before his dad could reply, Gary spoke up and said "Hey - Don't pick on my dad – he's my best father."

As many of you know, Gary loved food and was happiest when he had his pop and snacks. His dad likes to tell how when Gary was working at McDonald's (where he worked for 15 years), he would give Gary money every day for his lunch. Many years later, after talking to his boss at a company picnic, Carl discovered that Gary had free lunch every day at McDonalds. Gary had been using the extra money to buy donuts or cookies at the other shops nearby. We found out later he was stashing his favorite snacks in the drawers of his water bed. How could we ever get mad at Gary? He never held a grudge against anyone and never dwelt on negative thoughts. All I can say is that we all miss him terribly.

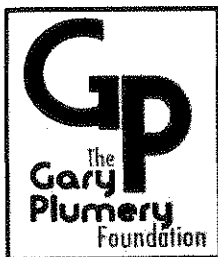
If you would like to submit stories for inclusion in Gary's Corner, email Rich at Plumery@aol.com.

Sixth Annual Holiday Wish List Campaign

The Annual Christmas Wish List Holiday party for developmentally disabled clients at Developmental Pathways was held on December 19th. The clients were treated to pizza, soft drinks and a variety of Christmas cookies and desserts. Thanks to the generosity of our membership, we were able to fulfill the Christmas wishes of over 90 clients with about \$9,000 worth of gifts. The spirit of the day was best expressed by Gary's niece and nephew (who attended) who said they loved giving out the gifts more than receiving their own, because of the happiness it brought to these special individuals. The clients were so delighted with their gifts that they thanked us with many hugs and the staff let us know just how much the clients look forward to this special event, and all the others we hold throughout the year.

This year the gifts included:

- A special recliner which assists the individual in standing up and sitting down.
- New beds, dressers, televisions (just imagine how impacting it is for a person with Cerebral Palsy being confined to a wheelchair and barely able to communicate to receive a TV to help them pass the time), winter coats and other miscellaneous clothing, bedding, electric blankets, games, puzzles, gift certificates, and many other items.



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Gary's Corner

One year after Bill and I moved to California, Aunt Sylvia, Uncle Carl and Gary came to visit us. One afternoon during the visit, I brought Gary to my office. He only wanted to talk to the girls in my office - he walked up to each cube and introduced himself and asked their names and what they were working on. At one of the workstations, my co worker Barbara asked Gary where he worked and he answered "Mc Donald's". Barbara asked Gary what he did there? Without missing a beat, Gary answered "I run the place!" We all loved it and the entire staff instantly fell in love with him.

- Marilyn Haugh

If you would like to submit stories for inclusion in Gary's Corner email Rich at Plumery@aol.com.

Summer Camping Trips

There were three camping trips again this year. The first trip in mid July was to the Winding River Ranch campground near Rocky Mountain National Park, which included a half-day rafting trip with the National Sports Center for the Disabled. This event was attended by ten clients. Highlights of the trip were, of course, the rafting, a trip to Hot Sulphur Springs Resort hot springs, and a special Sunday event at the campground - a homemade pancake breakfast with HUGE pancakes! The group traveled over Trail Ridge Road for the trip home.

The second trip was to Wilderness on Wheels, which has become an annual trip because of its accessibility and location. On August 14, five clients were transported to this campground to enjoy fishing, hiking and communing with nature. They returned home the next day with their limit of fish (less a few that were consumed at supper the night before).

The last trip was to Reverend's Ridge campground in Golden Gate Canyon State Park just outside Denver. This was a fun trip attended by six clients who fished, hiked and had a great time just relaxing in the cabin and yurt that the Gary Plumery Foundation had rented for them.

