



## Dr. Gary Delano Mitchell

February 28, 1969 - September 21, 2020

Gary Delano Mitchell, M.D. was born on February 28, 1969 in Washington, D.C., to the late Dr. Claude Mitchell and the late Dr. Velma Elaine McLin Mitchell, as the eldest of two children. Legend has it that Claude was so excited with the arrival of his first-born son, that he and his brother-in-law, Quincy "Adam" McLin, smoked cigars over a celebratory steak dinner. Gary spent his early childhood in St. Paul, MN, until the family settled in Glenolden, PA, (also known as Darby Township) when Gary was almost 8 years old. Gary was in gifted classes while attending elementary school at the Studevan School as well as Darby Township School, both located in Darby Township, PA. He attended junior high school at Media-Providence Friends School in Media, PA, and in 1986, graduated from Westtown School, a boarding high school in Westchester, PA.

Gary began his college education at Hampton University in Hampton, VA, and completed his Bachelor's degree in Biology/Pre-Med at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania in 1990. Gary was in the United States Army Reserve. He was called to active duty and deployed to Germany during Operation Desert Storm. Due to Gary's service for his country, he was unable to participate in his college commencement ceremony.

Gary continued his education at the Medical College of Pennsylvania where he completed his Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree in 1997. In 2000, he completed the Family Medicine Residency at the Piedmont Columbus Medical Center in Columbus, GA. Gary received several awards and accolades during this residency which included rotations in emergency medicine, general surgery, family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, and neonatology.

Gary's professional career was varied and rewarding. He worked as an ER Director in Macon, GA; in hospice care in Conyers, GA; as a staff physician at the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta, GA, as well as within Kaiser Permanente's Atlanta hospital system. Gary dedicated 12 years to Family Practice Partners in Conyers, GA, a private practice he started with three colleagues.

Gary's advice extended beyond family and friends and into his professional life as well. He became known as the doctor with a listening ear. Due to the time he spent with patients, Gary often held sessions longer than the designated short blocks designed to meet Medicare guidelines for daily patient quotas. Gary talked to patients for as long as it took

to address their underlying conditions and hear their concerns. Due to this level of care, Gary's private practice patients were faithful and truly loved Dr. Mitchell.

Gary was a renowned scholar with an appreciation of politics, sports, science fiction, world events, international travel, holistic medicine, and many other medical specialties. As such, Gary was an avid reader, prolific writer, and spirited debater. Gary and Joyce often joked that he was full of useless information."

Gary's international travels included Italy, Germany, and Kenya. During his residency, Gary traveled to East Africa with a church mission. While there, Gary indulged in the traditional cuisine and spent as much time as he could soaking up the local culture. Gary also traveled extensively throughout the United States. One of his fondest childhood memories was of taking a cross country road trip with his parents and sister. He enjoyed attending many family reunions, graduation ceremonies, birthday celebrations and other momentous family occasions in various cities across the United States.

Gary joined the First Baptist Church of Oakeola in Glenolden, PA, at a young age. There he was an active member of the Youth Choir, the C.B. (Charles Baxter) Ensemble Choir, the Usher Board, and the Kitchen Committee. Gary was also a member of the Male Chorus at Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Florence, MS, for a time; and recently enjoyed attending Friendship Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC.

Gary is survived by his sister Joyce Marie Mitchell (Charlotte, NC); God-brothers Dr. John L. Adams, III, David J. Adams, MHS (Philadelphia, PA); and special friend, Wanda Reeves (Atlanta, GA). Gary leaves to cherish his memory a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family, and friends.

# Events

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**OCT**   **Visitation**   05:30PM - 07:30PM

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Dean Memorial Funeral Home  
745 Highway 468, Brandon, MS, US, 39042

**OCT**   **Graveside Service**   12:00PM

**3**

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Good Hope Church Cemetery  
476 R.T. Braddy Road, Florence, MS, US

# Comments

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“ My heart sank. Gary and I have been friends for 15 years. Although we didn't talk nearly as much as we used to, each year we'd call one another on each other's birthdays. His being in February and mine in July. Over the years there has been a couple times in which he didn't respond to my voice message, text, or his number had changed. In those cases I always pressed and would email him to make sure he was okay lol..titled: 'Smoke Signals' and I know he'd chuckle. I looked forward to hearing his voice even if it was just once or twice a year. I couldn't reach him this year. I didn't worry immediately, but something has been nagging at me to try to reach him. Since we don't have mutual friends, I had no way of knowing he was gone.. I was at work the other day and googled him. It took a couple of times because his name is common..but when I added his middle name, my heart broke. I'm devastated. He shouldn't be gone so soon. I found some old voice messages from him that I've played over and over, his deep voice is a soft, but deep therapeutic rumble on a lazy Sunday. I'll miss his voice...

Gary was a positive force in my life from the very moment we met at a Medical Director's Conference in South Florida circa 2004. He was the kindest, gentlest, most compassionate, generous, funny, intelligent, humble, down-to-earth poetic human I've ever known. I can't believe I'll never speak with him again. But I know that he's smiling and at peace now with his beloved parents.

Sending my very deepest condolences to Gary's sister, Joyce, his entire family and close friends. Joyce you probably don't remember me....I cannot believe I missed saying goodbye to my friend because we only reach out for each other's birthdays - we were only a few months apart in age.

This is my lesson learned.....as we grow older, love on your friends and family every chance that you get. I loved Gary very much. He is truly missed. Rest well my friend...

Peace & love,  
Christia 'Chris' Gay

**Christia Gay** - March 29 at 03:57 PM



“ Hi Chris,

Yes I remember you. So sorry you had to find out this way. I cannot bring myself to go thru G's phone, but I probably should.

I passed by No Mas a couple weeks ago and thought of you. Thank you for the kind words. Yes, he is truly missed. Thank you again - Joyce

**Joyce Mitchell** - July 04 at 08:21 PM



“ Hi Joyce,

You do not know me but I knew your brother. He was my doctor and my husband's doctor in Conyers, Ga. My husband saw his new dr today and mention your brother's name and my spouse told him he use to be his dr, but he move back home to care for his mom or dad. So when I came home I googled his name and it blew my mind when I saw he had passed away a year ago. I am so so sorry but he was a great man. I never would have known I had Polycystic Kidney disease without the help of your brother. He ran blood test and found out and referred me to a nephrologist. We miss him. It is hard to find good dr's

like Dr. G. Mitchell.RIP MY FRIEND! God Bless!

Pastor Richard/ Frances Murphy

**frances murphy** - September 17 at 06:37 PM

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“ I recall grace, gratitude, wisdom, and fellowship flowing through Gary. My condolences to all. Ours was a richer world for knowing Gary.  
Deb Wood, Westtown '86

**Deb Wood** - November 15, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ Thank you Deb. Gary loved his Westtown family so very much. He spoke of you all often. I shared with Marpa how jealous I was that I was not allowed to attend Westtown. I always admired the bonds you formed. Thank you again. Joyce Mitchell

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:26 PM

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“ I am completely devastated and at a loss for words after just finding out you're gone. The last time we spoke, we joked for hours about how you stood me up, although it was completely understandable since your mom had an accident and you went to go take care of her. You teased me about me getting you back by later getting married. Every time we saw or spoke to one another, we laughed hysterically about us, life and all the trouble we used to get into (like at one of your family reunions when we got lost in the hotel and ended up in the kitchen under construction, then got caught by security. Luckily we both had a gift to talk our way out of being arrested.) I remember how you went out of your way to find alternative meds for me when I got laid off and could no longer afford the \$1000 prescription I needed for narcolepsy and even gave me free samples when they were available. I will never forget your smile, your laugh and how happy I was when in your presence and talking to you on the phone. I hate that we lost touch after I got a new job and my number changed, then yours did. I wish I had done a better job at trying to find you, and for that, I'll always regret. Just know that no matter how far away we were from one another, or how long it has been since we last spoke, I thought about you constantly and will always love you, remember you and continue to think about you. You were truly loved and will be greatly missed! Rest in Paradise, Doc.

Joyce, I'm not sure if you or the McLins remember me, but you have my deepest condolences! I loved your brother tremendously!

**Zuri Green** - November 09, 2020 at 09:09 AM



“ Of course I remember you Zuri! Thank you so much. G loved you deeply as well. Thank you for sharing. - Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:32 PM



“ Gary you remain a treasure to me and I will miss you. You were always so calm of spirit and quick of mind. Your Westtown community cherished you...and still does. I remember coordinating our nocturnal dorm room 'study' sessions well. Your acknowledgment of my joy that I found playing pick up ball meant so much to me. Thank you for your generosity. Your essence was and is pure love and you made that power available to us all. Rest In Peace, and any guidance you can continue to give is much appreciated.

**Marpa Eager** - November 03, 2020 at 08:13 PM



“ Beautiful Marpa. Thank you. -Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:21 PM



“ Gary is a mighty blessing to his family, a gentle giant and a silent strength. Joyce, be blessed and encouraged by his legacy and that of a family that touched so many lives in such a positive way. You are all loved so much. Juanita Edwards

**Juanita Edwards** - October 25, 2020 at 02:00 PM



“ Thank you Juanita. Love you.

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:22 PM



“ Jejuan Brown lit a candle in memory of Dr. Gary Delano Mitchell



**Jejuan Brown** - October 04, 2020 at 06:41 PM



“ Thank you Jejuan

**Joyce** - October 12, 2020 at 08:17 AM

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“ Gentle, Humble, Wise, Giant Spirit.

**Angie Richardson** - October 04, 2020 at 01:48 AM



“ Yes he was Angie. Thank you. - Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:32 PM

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“ I must say that it was a true pleasure and honor to have worked with a physician as compassionate as Dr. Gary Mitchell. He will be greatly missed.

**Raul Perez** - October 03, 2020 at 06:14 PM



“ Thank you for sharing Raul.

**Joyce** - October 12, 2020 at 08:19 AM

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“ What to say? This feels so wrong but it's 2020. Gary was a friend, a mentor and a colleague. A big man with an even bigger heart. A true empathy. I'm a better physician for having trained under you and a better person for having known you. I hurt that we lost touch but know you are at peace in a better place. Rest well my friend. Fair enough.

**Nicole Higgs Doughty** - October 03, 2020 at 02:56 PM



“ Thank you Nicole. Yes it does feel wrong. Thank you for the flowers, they were beautiful. I sent a thank you to Daryl. -Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:35 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Video



**Dean Memorial Funeral Home** - October 03, 2020 at 12:17 PM



“ Joyce, continued prayers of comfort and strength are being sent to you Rest Well  
Doc...Love u ALWAYS

**Danita Ellerbee** - October 05, 2020 at 11:30 AM



“ Thank you Danita. And thank you again for all of your help, I couldn't have done it without you! -Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:37 PM

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“ Words escape me Gary, words escape me. You were my friend and my business partner and I loved you for both. My life was made better because you were in it. Rest In Peace my friend and know that you were loved.  
Love always,  
Noreen Andrews

**Noreen H Andrews** - October 02, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ Amen Noreen. - Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:40 PM

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“ May God's Grace and the memories of Gary comfort you, Joyce and family, now and forever. I am blessed to know Gary as a friend and colleague. He is a beautiful man and gentle soul. The big memories, such as our travel to Kenya, but more importantly, the little memories, like a soft kiss on the forehead, will forever kindle the fire of love in my heart. It's too soon to say goodbye. Go in Peace! Love, Tanya Savage Anderson

**Tanya Anderson** - October 02, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ Yes, it is too soon. Thank you Tanya. - Joyce

**Joyce** - February 09 at 01:39 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Gary Delano Mitchell.



October 02, 2020 at 09:59 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Gary Delano Mitchell.



October 01, 2020 at 09:24 PM

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“ Gary, there are so many memories. But my favorite is you taking me to my first NBA game. You laughed SO HARD when I asked you where the man was that talks during the game, to tell you what's going on. We laughed about that even years later! I Love You my friend and I will cherish every memory of us. CU4LIFE Rest Well My Friend, send my love to Troi, Woody and Paul

**Danita Ellerbee** - September 30, 2020 at 08:18 PM