



Gary Potter

December 21, 1943 - July 4, 2011

Gary Canfield Potter, 67, of Gentry, Arkansas, (previously of Colorado Springs) died July 4, 2011, at Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital, Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Born December 21, 1943, in Riverside, California, he was the son of Wilson Potter, Jr., and Zola Marie Thurston Potter. He was a graduate of the University of California, Riverside and then received a Graduate Degree (Masters) in Geophysics from the University of California, Berkley. He moved to Gentry 25 years ago, and was a real estate appraiser for 19 years and belonged to many local and national appraisal boards. He married Patricia Ann Noble of the home on March 14, 2010. He was blessed to be attending the Seventh Day Adventist Cowboy Church, Springtown, AR, receiving much love and support during his battle with cancer. (previously attended the Siloam Springs Presbyterian Church). He was preceded in death by his parents; and one brother, Wilson Potter, III. Much loved survivors include his wife Patsy of the home; one sister, Charlotte Potter of Henderson, Nevada; one daughter Regan Potter Bowen and husband Shane of Houston, Texas; two sons, Tristan Potter and wife Laura of Springfield, Missouri, and Bain Potter and wife Karma of Springdale, Arkansas; five grandchildren; three step-children, Marcie Fisher Rhodes of Green Forest, Arkansas, Mark Fisher and wife Veronica of Traverse City, Michigan, and Michael Fisher of New Orleans, Louisiana; five step-grandchildren; Gary and his wife loved caving and he was active as Vice president of the Boston Mountain Grotto in Fayetteville, and a member of the M.O.L.E.S., and the National Speleological Society. He

also belonged to the CA Board of Geologists and Geophysicists. From 1968 to 1981 he was a member of the U.S. Army Reserves, being named as an honor graduate of the NCO Academy and reaching the rank of Captain. Memorial services will be 2:30 p.m., August 6, 2011, outdoors at The Seventh Day Adventist Cowboy Church Pavilion, 12444 Fairmount Road, (Gentry)Springtown, Arkansas

Tribute Wall

FS

“ Hi There all,

I want to say about Gary that I really appreciated him teaching me how to do vertical rope work. That is something that I can always have, i.e. to be skilled on rope. I took the NCRC level I & level II as well. NCRC (National Cave Rescue Commission). He and Terry Mitchel laid the foundation for the other rope work starting off in the barn in his back yard.

I appreciate this contribution and I send my comfort to his family, including Patsy.

Your fellow caver,

Franc & Nguri Sevcik

Franc & Nguri Sevcik - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

CB

“ Gary, was the master of the understatement. I will miss your gentle humor.

Charles Brickey - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

JW

“ I never thought a man could bring so much joy to my grandmother. Words couldn't describe how upset I am for the loss of Gary as well as the fact that I really didn't get to spend the time that I wanted to with him. He was by far the most patient man I've ever met. Someone who would take the time to explain things to you with more detail than you could imagine. His intelligence amazed me and I'm sure it amazed everyone who knew him. Without Gary i wouldn't have experienced and learned amazing things that exist on this earth. Through his battle of cancer he showed that he would put every bit of energy and strength into fighting it off. My respect and love for Gary will never be forgotten.

Rest In Peace

Jeff Winter - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

VP

“ I CAME TO KNOW GARY THROUGH MY RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS STEPDAUGHTER MARCIE. THE FIRST TIME I MET GARY WAS AT A JR. HIGH FOOTBALL GAME. HE WAS VERY ILL AT THE TIME. HOWEVER BEING THERE TO WATCH HIS STEP GRANDSON PLAY FOOTBALL WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HIS OWN COMFORT. TO GARY, FAMILY CAME FIRST. HE SURE DID HAVE A LOT OF COOL STUFF ! I THINK IT WOULD HAVE BEEN GREAT TO BE ONE OF HIS KIDS. TO GARY, LIFE WAS AN ADVENTURE !

VAN PALMER - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

BR

“ gary was an extraordinary man . loving caring very smart loyal strong hearted very head strong as well . he was a huge part of my life even though he might not have known it at times but it is because of him that i am the way i am today . he showed me amazing things in this life and taught me many of them as well . he is the reason that i love the world and what it has in store for us so much because he taught me there's way more to life than meets the eye u just hafta look . multiple times we looked underground for these things or travel hundreds of miles but no matter where he took us every place still to this day has a place in my heart and when i discover more of these places i will think of him because even though he can't be with me anymore i will always have him in my heart and will know that if not for him i would have never known or found those places. my interest in him was immense but it never surpassed my love for him . it is now that i actually understand the method to his often in my opinion madness because if not for it i wouldn't have the knowledge and understanding of the world we live in today . he has inspired me to be great and i will always have this wonderful man in my heart until the day i too pass away . for if anyone knows him for the man i do it would be impossible not to. gary potter will be greatly missed but never forgotten . my love for him rarely exceeded my love for him .Always in our hearts rest in peace gary :)

bobby rhodes - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

SS

“ Gary was a funny guy. It took me a while to figure out whether he was pulling my leg... and in a tight spot in a cave you sometimes need someone to do just that. As a fellow "old caver" who came to it late in life, Gary helped me learn ropework and wonderfully expand my underground horizons. I vividly recall my first rappel off two hay rolls in his "vertical training facility" (the barn) and my graduation rappel by the falls at Hemmed-In Hollow (230+ feet)- still one of the the "high"lights of my life. I also recall Gary, temporarily, thank goodness, stuck on his own self-belay device maybe a hundred feet up the rope at Hemmed-In... Best self-rescue I ever hope to see. Gary has also been an important person in my life in that he shared his experiences with me concerning prostate cancer, which I have also learned I have. I am saddened that he was not able to make that rescue too. I will miss you Gary. Love and Stars, Scott

Scott Sutton - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

MR

“ Gary was such a loyal,man. When Gary loved you, you just knew it was an unconditional love. The love he had for my mother, won a place in my heart.It took me some time to actually get to know Gary, but he crept into my heart somewhere along the way,and my love for him ever since has been unwavering. Gary was always so loving and caring when it came to my boys and me,and even though the look on his face said one thing, he was such a patient man. He was an awesome role model for all of us. He took us to so many spectacular places and taught us so many things that we never could have imagined experiencing without him in our lives. Gary was so courageous in his battle with cancer, a true warrior till the end. I witnessed Gary on his last day on this earth get up and out of his bed not once but twice with our help. Gary you are truly missed and I know that I will never have a man so close to my heart. Love always,Marcie

Marcie Anne Rhodes - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

AG

“ Gary Potter... Appraiser! One of the very best! I always knew when Gary was assigned the appraisal he would do his best and it would always be right on!

Then marrying Pat who I had met years earlier through a mutual friend just made it better!

He will be missed by everyone!

Sincerely,

Annette Gore

Annette Gore - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

WM

“ Our prayers are with yall in this sorrow time.As we knew Gary for a short time of his life, he was a very kind & caring man. A man with a strong will & ambition for life at everything he did in life.Gary enjoy life to the fullest.We all laughed & had conversations to all lengths.The time was here for God to take him home to his resting place for everlasting life.He shall look down upon us & smile.We will say goodbye for now till we meet again.We will always miss you. With all our love & prayers Wayne & Terri

Wayne & Terri Mascarella - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

CS

“ We are thinking of Gary's family and friends and want to extend our love and support. We have many memories of Gary, especially Mike from growing up in Gentry and caving. He is missed. Our thoughts are with you.

Christy and Mike Slay - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

GM

“ Patsy and Family,

I am so very sorry for your loss of your beloved Gary. He fought a long, courageous painful battle and has gone home now for his reward. Heaven has another Angel. You know Patsy, he is really the lucky one. He is with our Lord and with all those that went before him that loved him. What a celebration that will be! If you need a shoulder, please call me. I just lost my husband of 44 years in March, so I can relate. Take care and blessings to all.

Gale

Gale White Miller - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

RS

“ Gary, was a great explorer and friend. He will be greatly missed!
Our condolences to Patsey and his family.

RC & Jane Schroeder - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

MB

“ Over the years, I was always struck by how much enthusiasm Gary always brought with him to any situation. Often, he was more excited about what was happening than those half his age. It was refreshing.

I am grateful to Gary for his generosity over the years as well. Many times, he donated his time and property toward training other cavers on how to safely do vertical work. In fact, one of my first experiences with the Boston Mountain Grotto was to drive out to Gary's barn and get "on rope". This training was the springboard for many activities in my life that I had never previously imagined possible. I wish I could have thanked Gary again for contributing to my life in such an important way. Anna & I extend our condolences to all his family and friends who are missing him.

*With love,
Michael & Anna Bayona*

Michael & Anna Bayona - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

TM

“ I met Gary in January 2003 during a vertical (ropework) techniques training workshop for Arkansas cavers. Through the years since then he and I caved together many, many times. We collaborated extensively on cave survey & mapping projects and conducted vertical caving training courses together. For the past four years we served together as officers of the Boston Mountain Grotto, our local caving club. Gary was a skilled and adventurous caver, he was an active and valuable participant in caving organizations, and he was a good friend to all.

Gary loved to be with his family and include them in his various recreational adventures. My sincere condolences are extended to Patsy and to Gary's children, grandchildren, and sister. I miss him greatly.

Terry Mitchell - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM

LP

“ All our Love.

Laura Leigh Potter - September 19, 2012 at 11:59 AM