



Richard Gural

June 26, 1948 - April 21, 2013

“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”

1Timothy 6:12 Richard Patrick Gural always fought the good fight for his family, his professional endeavors, his friends, many strangers, and most recently, for himself. His motto for living: “always do the right thing.” Over the past 10 years, Richard fought a heroic battle with advanced stage prostate cancer. For many years, few people knew of his condition. He never complained, remained positive, and fought the disease every minute of every day for more than a decade as he continued his professional work until the last week of his life. Richard passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 21, 2013. Trained as a clinical pharmacologist with a PhD from the University of Kentucky, Richard spent his entire professional career in the regulatory sector of the pharmaceutical industry. His professional passion was helping to get drugs approved on a worldwide basis in a wide spectrum of therapeutic areas to help millions of patients worldwide prevent, cure, or mitigate their diseases. His priorities were always the patient and the safety of the drug. On the home front, Richard was a loving father, a doting grandfather, a devoted son, and the best husband any woman could hope to have. He encouraged, loved, nurtured, and protected his family, always instilling in them a strong work ethic and the courage to always do the right thing. His professional travels and associations gave him a larger worldview and the appreciation of fine French wine and a good Cuban cigar. He was as comfortable in his workday “uniform”

a Hickey Freeman suit, white shirt, Hermes tie, and Allen Edmond shoes as he was in his usual home attire of blue jeans held up by crazy suspenders, a doo-rag, and well-worn work boots. A man of diverse and varied interests, Richard dabbled in photography, raised honey bees, and was known to the neighborhood as Mr. Fix-It. He was an expert electrician, plumber, carpenter, and tile setter. He also loved a variety of music: Andrea Bocelli , Il Divo, Frank Sinatra, and especially Elvis Presley, to whom he listened almost every Sunday morning. Born to Emil and Mary Gural in Somerville, New Jersey on June 26, 1948, Richard is survived by his wife, Marilyn; his daughter, Alina , her husband, Jason, and their two children Sophia and Charlotte; his son Peter, his wife Shavaun, and their two children Laila and Lily; his mother, Mary Gural; and his menagerie of pets: Buffy, Rufus, Izzy, Bella, Bocelli, and Valentino. He was preceded in death by his brother, Emil Gural. An intelligent, honest, generous, humble, and caring man, Richard embodied the best of our humanness. Everyone whose life he touched is better in some way for having known him. Richard's life will be celebrated at the Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home on Main and Fifth Avenue in Phoenixville, PA. Visitation hours will be from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on Thursday, April 25, 2013, and at a Memorial Service on Friday, April 26, 2013 at 1:30 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Hospital at the following link: <http://mskcc.convio.net/goto/Gural> As a lasting legacy for family and friends to treasure, please share your story about how Richard touched your life. Go to the funeral homes' website, www.campbellennisklotzbachfuneralhome.com, click the obituary tab, click Richard Gural, and share your story.

Tribute Wall

ED

“ *Eddie lit a candle in memory of Richard Gural*



Eddie - October 02, 2013 at 11:09 PM

MM

“ *I was fortunate enough to have worked with Rich as his Admin. Asst. while at Rhone-Poulenc. I was 26 at the time and although 25 yrs have quickly passed, I have never forgotten him. Rich epitomized superlative work ethic; incited you to strive for the best, and had great fun in doing so. I have never worked with a better, more rounded person and have missed him over the years. He made a huge impression upon me and while I hadnt seen or spoken to him in as many years, I never forgot his gentleness of spirit. In love and friendship, Rest in Peace, Dr. Gural.*

Mary Bruguier - mbrug6@ymail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

NN

“ I have been working with Rich for the past 10 years at Sanofi and more closely during this 3 months period of the Multaq FDA Advisory Committee in 2009, a great opportunity for me to work with him hand in hand, learn from him, realize how much talented he was in understanding the scientific challenges and above all in caring for people. He would be committed to the Company, available at any time, flying back and forth to France to support the project. He would bring me chocolates each time he would fly to France since the time he discovered I loved chocolate. This tells you all about Rich. A big loss for us and for his family. God bless you Rich. Rest in Peace.

Nacera - nacera.hamdani@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

PP

“ Marilyn, I am so very sorry for your loss, Richard was a wonderful man, and I will miss him greatly. His and your friendship has meant a lot to Tricia, Paige, and me. My memories are simple ones. I loved our chats on Saturday or Sunday's when we were working on our yards. I would cut through the gates and talk about the weekend's projects, your garden, your/Richard's travels, the dogs, Richard's interest in Paige, your family, etc. He was never too busy to take a few minutes to catch-up. I appreciated his insight, perspective, and advice. I will treasure the memories, and being able to call Richard a friend. I will never forget how proud he was when delivering the hand crafted horse theme items you made for Paige's college graduation. His deep voice announcing his arrival and special delivery will remain in my mine forever. Paige will treasure the items for the rest of her life, and they will remind her of you and Richard. I'm nowhere as talented as Richard, but I'm here to help you in anyway. Reach out any time. Regards, Paul

Paul Adack - padack@aol.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

CC

“ Rich was a great and kind man. I worked in his group at sanofi as an assistant. I remember when my 3 year old was into princesses, he thought of her when he saw princess dressup shoes at Costco and bought them for her just because! When our baby was critically ill and i had an extended leave, he made sure the company took care of me. This was a man that no matter how high he was in the company was totally reachable with an open door to all. Sending love to his family. This was so unexpected to hear..but know that he touched so many and that his love of life and his family was so apparent. Prayers to all of you on this great loss.

Cheryl Romanoski - cherylaromanoski@yahoo.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

VV

“ Relaxed at all times but never Relinquished his Rigor to meet the set objectives Inspired every one with his gentle smile and cheer and Ignited the urgency in his followers to succeed Charm he was and Chose the right time to convey his hard line on issues Hospitality is one of his great attributes, Hardly ignored the issues though Appreciated colleagues and Admired his peers Reminded everyone to be sincere and Reinforced sincerity in all Don't ask for it you Don't get was his Policy and never hesitated to remind people to ask for what they Want Good at Heart and Gentle with his words and Guided people to task with smile Unbiased and Urged everyone to do their best Rejuvenated energy with his inspirational words and support Adored those worked hard, Applauded those contributed the most Loved all no matter what, Lived with a style of his own Vijay Tammara Colleague at Sanofi-Synthelabo and Wyeth Inc.

Vijay Tammara - Vijaytammara@hotmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

BS

“ Dear Richard, As tough as you were in your professional life, you were as kind and sensitive in your personal life. I will miss "our touch bases", your boisterous Good Morning and your incredible laugh. We could always find you in the office building saying "good morning or how are you today" from the CEO to the janitor. You were a real man's man. I know you are in a beautiful place now so may you rest in peace and know you touched my life in a special way. I will never forget you and my remberence of you will be a smile on my face. Your assistant, Barbara

Barbara Snyder - snyderus@embarqmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

EE

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy. Rich was my “big boss” for several years. He was a great leader. I especially could appreciate his personality during crisis periods with some of our drugs when safety and well-being of many patients was at stake. He was quick to get a clear picture of the overall situation and to identify the critical points to be addressed. He would then translate that into very clear action plans. While very demanding to his teams (and to himself) he would provide them with a continuous support that could go from cheering up people when they were exhausted to going himself to the “frontline” to deal with the most difficult issues. Very importantly he would never hind behind anybody and would take full accountability about his decisions and the instructions he gave. I am proud and grateful to have worked under his leadership. I will miss him.

Eugene Corretge - eugene.corretge@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

JJ

“ Richard was one of the kindest, caring, most fun loving man I have ever met. He was indeed multi-talented from sewing basket liners for the knitting shop, cooking and serving the most delicious meals one could ever eat, repairing anything that needed fixing and I could go on and on naming his virtues. Richard made everyone whose life he touched feel special. I will always remember his phone call to me from France to see how I was feeling when I was hospitalized. His caring and concern for others was unmatched. Marilyn, I can never thank you enough for allowing Jim and I the priviledge of knowing your wonderful husband. I told him in a private moment that we would always be there for you and I know he will be watching. As my Jim would say Richard "IS ACES" Our thoughts, prayers and love will always be with you,

Jan and Jim Norsworthy - JanNorsworthy@aol.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

BC

“ Global Regulatory Affairs Head of Region Europe So many business colleagues and Regulators from all over the world came to us this week addressing their sincere condolences, recognizing Richard's courage and dedication to the company until the very last minutes, his guidance, fast strategic and practical way of thinking which has certainly inspired the RA teams around him. In region Europe we will definitely try to do our best to leverage what we have learnt from Richard and will remember him as passionate, always optimistic and devoted to his job. We would like to share this message with his family and friends and say that we are already missing Richard.

Bénédicte Chatelard - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

MM

“And in the end, it’s not the years in your life that count, Its the Life in your years.” Abraham LincolnI met Richard through my association with Marilyn at the Knitting Shop. From our first meeting I realized what a special person he was. Always smiling, always willing to help, bringing “the girls” lunch on a Saturday afternoon, he exuded happiness and contentment. As a widow myself, he was always willing to help me with some “Mr. Fixit” problems around the house and to offer advice and help when needed . I know the pain and heartache of losing a good and gentle man far too soon. I will always remember him for his smile, his joy of life, his caring, compassion, love for his family and his willingness to help others. I will be forever grateful having made his acquaintance and having known him even though for only a few years. Those like Richard who have given of themselves to others, live forever in the hearts of those they have touched.. I know he will live on in my heart as well as in many others.

Madeleine - mdab@mac.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

VA

“ Rich, my dear friend. I'm honored to be part of your extended family. Always the strongest, always with a smile, always cared for others before yourself. My heart aches. Love you Rich.

Vince Altomare - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DD

“ I recall so clearly the many days that Richard and I exchanged greetings when working in the yard or coming home for the office. Richard’s booming voice - “Hello Don!” And we would talk about a project or how beautiful the neighborhood was, or the weather or change of seasons. Not hearing Richard outside leaves a big hole in the neighborhood. And speaking of outside, no one was ever as busy as Richard, always a new project, an early start and a full day’s work. I’ve kidded neighbors before that Richard set a pace that none of the other husbands in the neighborhood could keep up with. Yard and house always perfect and not a weed in the lawn! Despite his busy work and family schedule, Richard was always quick to offer me much needed advice, tools and help with my projects. Even when Richard was sick, he came over to help me with my furnace - I felt bad asking but I sensed that he always loved a project, a challenge or helping others out, so I just went over and asked. You set a great example for all of us, Richard. Your deep love for Marilyn was apparent in everything you did and all of your interactions. You worked and fought so hard. I miss you greatly, but I am comforted that you are at the peace you deserve.

Don Wildauer - dawildauer@aol.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

WA

“ I have and always will love and appreciate Richard. He was a great and humble man. He had his priorities right. In his own words "God, family, work." He was compassionate and I believe he will spend his eternal life with the Lord. One day, I hope to visit him once and forever.

Wayne - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

JJ

“ I have known Richard since 2006 when I joined his department in Sanofi and was always impressed by his brilliance, both in the professional sense as he was a superb regulatory expert, as well as human sense - he was an exceptional leader, who truly inspired, cared about and fought for the people in his group. He adored his family and encouraged people to prioritize the loved ones in their lives (he sometimes called it “make memories”) and always tried to do the best he could for people at work. We lost a great leader and mentor.

Jana Bodorova - Jana.Bodorova@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

EN

“ There would never be enough words to describe Richard. I will always remember the attention he bestowed on Marilyn's Knit Group. During our times together he would always see that we were enjoying ourselves, filling our plates and our glasses. There was never a time we did not see Richard without a smile, he was always happy especially talking about Marilyn and his family. He will be missed by all whose lives he touched. We are So Sorry for your Loss.

Elaine and Nick - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

MH

“ I share in your sadness from across the ocean. Thank you for your tribute to a kind man who will clearly be sorely missed. May God bless you and sustain you in your grief and dry your tears as you remember Rich with fondness.

Michelle Hughes-Fleck - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

AA

“ I have been in Richard's team since more than 10 years from now. Even though, I had not frequent interaction with him, I created some relationship with him as I met him quite often when he was travelling to France since I am leaving very close to the hotel when he used to stay. He was always smiling, had nice and kind words for the family. From a professional perspective, I was always impressed by his reactivity to complex situations, quick understanding of issues and quality of advices. I was really sad when I learnt the news on monday... All my best ot Marylin, his children and grandchildren. I know he was proud of his familly as he used to mention them and show pictures.... He has the personality you cannot forget.... Please receive all my support from france... Agnès

Agnès Legathe - Agnes.legathe@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

CT

“ Richard Gural visited China in 2009 and 2011. During his stay he had shown enthusiasm to his work and kindness to his colleagues. He had left a deep impression to the Chinese team by sharing his wealth of experience, which ultimately transcended to the SFDA, CDE and Ministry of Health. During Richard’s first visit to China in 2009, he met with the Head of the CDE and Head of the SFDA’s Drug Regulatory Department. He helped establish a long standing cooperation between Sanofi and China’s drug registration department. During his visit, he had shared his abundant experience which promoted in-depth cooperation between the two departments. In 2011, Richard visited China again. He met again with his counterparts at the CDE and proposed organizational change and the desire for further cooperation. In the meeting with the SFDA, Richard suggested a training plan, and invited SFDA officials to visit Sanofi’s headquarters. The successful visits of Richard established the image of Sanofi in the pharmaceutical sector which ultimately strengthened the communication between Sanofi and China’s drug department. His efforts will not only help the efficiency of the drug registration in China but will ultimately help patients in China seeking medical care from Sanofi’s drug products. We are grateful to the outstanding contributions Richard Patrick Gural has put forth in China. We are sad for the loss and offer our condolences the family and friends of Richard Gural. May he rest in peace.

China R&D Regulatory team - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

ST

“ We have just learnt with deep regret of the death of Richard Gural, and we are writing at once to express our heartfelt sympathy. There is not much one can say at time such as this, we have the privilege of knowing Mr Gural in years past, and we realize the great loss for Sanofi. We recall his many kindness, and he will not be forgotten by the many who admired and respected him. We wanted to express our condolences to the family and friends of Richard Gural. May he rest in peace.

Sanofi Regulatory China Team - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

TP

“ Graceful. Charming. Witty. Talented. Genuine. Brilliant. Loving. Giving. Helpful. Nurturing. The list goes on and on. These are the qualities that we most loved and admired in Richard. He was a real gentleman - and was truly a gentle man. We feel blessed that he was our friend and neighbor. We will be forever grateful that he cared enough to encourage our daughter during her pursuit of an engineering degree. We will miss his ability to fix anything and everything, but mostly, we will just miss him. The world lost one of the good guys and Heaven has a new resident.

Tricia, Paul and Paige - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

FF

“ We will certainly miss Rich's bright eyes and quick wit, but will not forget the impact he had on many of us as a teacher, mentor and friend.

Frank Carillo - fjc_ecg@yahoo.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DE

“ I will always remember Rich as a caring person, who traveled more than most but always had time to share a story or advice. We often stayed at the same Sofitel when in Paris. He turned me onto Calvados, never forget that special way to end the day. Equally at home, we would cross paths at the local Sears store sharing our most recent home projects. Rest easy my colleague and friend, Rich.

Dennis Engers - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

MM

“ To Rich's Family, I have had the pleasure of knowing Rich for over 25 years. We first met when working at Rhone-Poulenc in Princeton and kept in touch over the years and at sanofi. He was one of those guys that even if you hadn't talked in a while, it was like you saw each other the previous week. In this time of great sorrow and loss-I will so miss him!!! I smile at all of my great and funny memories of Rich--2 that I would like to share with you... Not long after Rich and I started working together we attended an orthopaedic surgery convention in New Orleans. After spending a long day in the various sessions, we agreed to grab a quick dinner. While walking down Bourbon Street we got to know a little about each other and learned that we both graduated from Villanova University (with his claim that he graduated right before those *icky* girls were allowed in {wink-wink}); we talked about being taught by the Augustinians, the values of St. Augustine and our faith (among other things). So engrossed in the conversation, we came across a random restaurant, opened the door and walked in to a rather dark establishment. When our eyes finally adjusted, we simultaneously realized that we had walked into what one could only describe as a topless female wrestling pit bar/restaurant. We looked at each other with jaws dropped and ran out. Back on the street, we started laughing so hard and with his deadpan humor he said, "did you see anybody in there that we know?". We laughed even harder. We had just talked about that not too long ago... About a year or so ago, I ran into Rich at Costco in KOP. I took one look at him and laughed out loud. He said, "what's so funny?" I was so used to seeing him as if he had just been on Bond Street, I didn't even know that he owned overalls that even the Salvation Army would reject, a worn out/ripped/faded rock n'roll t-shirt, shoes that were indescribable and a 2 day stubble. I said to him--so is this what working from home as done to you?? We both laughed, and caught up-- he was always so proud of his family and you could see the love when he spoke of each of you--especially his grandchildren! As I was walking away, I looked at Rich-that crazy outfit (that I will never forget), listening to El Divo on his iPod, walking around like he didn't have a care in the world and realized-- Rich is one of the happiest guys I have ever met! Not only happy, I

will remember him as a humble scholar, a generous, kind and compassionate man who told me so many times, just do the right thing. In closing I quote Michael Josephson who said in part, " What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered or encouraged others to emulate your example. What will matter is not how many people you knew, but how many will feel a lasting loss when you are gone. What will matter is not your memories but the memories that live in those who loved you. What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom and for what. Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident. It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice." Rest in Peace, my friend.

Margaret Hannan - Margaret.Hannan@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

BB

“ *M, I am so very sorry for your loss. Richard was a wonderful man and my only regret is I didn't know him that long. To you my dear Richard, I hope that someday along the way, we will come in contact with each other and I'll get to know you more. You are home free.*

Becky - bperez56@verizon.net - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

SS

“ *I had the pleasure of meeting Rich through my work supporting several project that he was leading. I was continually impressed by his energy and drive, even more so now on learning of his illness. He had a way of galvanizing people's attention. Whenever he entered a room, a wave of energy would roll through with him, energizing everyone present. One-on-one, you could feel his insight and compassion. He could listen with great attention and respond with insight and genuine concern for others. I'm very sorry to learn of his death and offer my condolences to his family, friends, and coworkers. Steven Cohen*

Steven Cohen - steven@ecglink.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

MM

“ I first met Rich at a kick-off meeting in Paris. I made the mistake of saying "we" when I was talking about the advisory committee team. At that time we hadn't yet met. He made sure that I got a clear message: It's not "we." The team was "we" and ECG was clearly more a "they" at this time. By the time the months of preparation were over we were sharing tequila shots. Before long the next time we met in Paris we were having dinner and sharing our love for big red wine. I already regret that it's been so long since we had that opportunity. My condolences to his wife and family and to all his friends and colleagues at Sanofi.

Michael Vivion - michael@ecglink.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

TT

“ Working with Richard on several products over the past 12 years has been a growing experience for me. He always provided mentoring and guidance to employees and definitely urging all " to do the right thing" all the time. He balanced family and work, something that is very hard to do and is admirable. He reached out to all employees, he knew their names and what they did and even something personal about them. He was able to bring people together in difficult situations and get results. He will be greatly missed at Sanofi by me and many others. Please accept my sympathy for your loss and know that Richard's positive influence on many people will continue throughout their lives, including myself. Tanya Momtahn (Sanofi, R&D)

Tanya Momtahn - tmomtahn@aol.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

TT

“ Working with Richard in past few years was a real treat both personally and professionally. I have learned much from his unique style of caring, experience, authority, and absolute commitment to doing the right thing - a pleasure that has been cut painfully short. It has been a blessing to call you my friend, and I will miss you.

Tal Zaks - tal.zaks@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

JT

“ Words seem inadequate to express the sadness I feel about Richard's passing. He was a loving Uncle and Godfather, a friend, a confidant, a teacher, someone I admired and loved greatly. My family and I share your grief in this time of bereavement with deepest heartfelt sympathy and condolence. May the peace that comes from the memories of love shared comfort you now and in the days ahead. "Though nothing can bring back the hour of splendor in the grass, of glory in the flower, we will grieve not; rather find strength in what remains behind." ~William Wordsworth.

Jacqueline Tulanowski - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DE

“ I moved out of Rich's department late last year after knowing him for over 13 years, somehow in moving on I felt I had to tell him my thoughts and I wrote to him to express my thanks to him for his support over the many years that I worked for him, as we had known each other for a long time on and off . I wrote to him so he would know how much I valued the help he had given me during my career and I felt it important to thank him, in particular for his support during the time I worked for him, and for his interactions, comment, guidance and advice over the years, and said that although we did not agree on everything even the challenges taught me something. I was pleased to receive a response from Rich saying that "Over the years we have challenged either other to improve the ways of working and to do new things." and he thanked me for my achievements. I kept these notes as he made me proud to have worked with him and to have felt valued.. and I re-read them when I heard the sad news. When thinking about Rich this is the side I remember most, even though at times he was a hard boss, he was just, fair, gave recognition and valued his staff. I want to share this part, so that people who knew other parts of Rich's life and did not work with him can see what sort of person he was for his staff. For Rich's family and loved ones I offer my condolences for your loss.. and wish you all long and healthy lives.

Donna Ellender - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

MM

“ Our deepest condolences to his wife and family. I'm personally going to miss Richard's vision, leadership and his tireless passion for his team, for patients, for family and for life. He was one in a million and I for one will find it hard not to see him visit his Bethesda office again. Melinda Lochab, sanofi

Melinda Lochab & Family - melinda.lochab@gmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

EE

“ Remembering FDA meetings, passionate discussions, dinners all together with good wine and cigars, your eyes sparkled with joy and your big smile after success and job well done! Passionate you were, able to fly back from Washington to New-York to spend hours with your loved one ... Great Man, my respects !

Eric Garrigou - eric.garrigou@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

SS

“ Richard was my uncle. We weren't blood related, but I could never tell the difference. In fact, it seemed like he was related to everyone he talked to. He made whoever he was talking to feel like they were the only person left on the planet. I don't know where I would start, or end, talking about the kind of guy Richard was. Frankly, he was the best man I've ever known and I will miss him on a level that I couldn't put into words. With a very heavy heart, I send my deepest condolences to Marilyn, Peter, Alina and his beloved granddaughters, Sophia and Charlotte. R.I.P.

Stephen McKeta - s.mcketa@gmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

BB

“ Richard was a tough but fair boss, and I respected him very much, even more so for his determination to not let his cancer get in the way of his passion of getting drugs approved so others could live better lives. May he rest in peace.

Becky Weishampel - becky.doubleu@gmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

MM

“ Memories of Rich - his singing and whistling at work, that wonderful rich laugh, his "outside office" at the picnic table, and the ability to make you feel that he was totally focused on what you were saying and feeling, and valued it. A remarkable man, and one I will always remember fondly and try to emulate.

Mindy Robinson-Paquette - mindy.robinson.paquette@gmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

JP

“ My sincere condolences on Richard's passing. I admired him and respected him as a leader in drug development and regulatory affairs. He was always optimistic, encouraging, and generous with his guidance and mentoring. ;He had a wonderful sense of humor. I will miss him.

Joanne Palmisano - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

HH

“ It is hard to put into words the impact that Rich has had on those that were fortunate enough to work with him. Rich was always warm and engaging which allowed everyone around him to excel. For those of us that are fortunate enough to have known Rich, we are certainly better people for it. I will miss you my friend. Hugh

Hugh O'Neill - hugh.oneill@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

HH

“ It is hard to put into words the impact that Rich has had on those that were fortunate enough to work with him. Rich was always warm and engaging which allowed everyone around him to excel. For those of us that are fortunate enough to have known Rich, we are certainly better people for it. I will mis you my friend. Hugh

Hugh O'Neill - hugh.oneill@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

TF

“ When Richard became head of RA at Wyeth, my colleagues asked me what I knew of him from my time at Rhone Poulenc in France, did I like him? My answer was easy, I liked him enough to ask him to do us the honour of being Godfather to our first born, Sophie. Richard, you were a wonderful ray of sunshine that entered into our lives, for which we will be eternally grateful. Such happy memories of you at work and at play. We send all our thoughts to Marilyn and all the family. All our love Mary, Chris, Sophie and Jon

The Brain family - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

BB

“ I worked with Rich for several years at RPR and was blessed to share the efforts with him to receive its approval for the treatment of ALS. Rich's devotion to his passion for new treatments never faltered. Also, his ability to lead many world-wide gatherings of the Regulatory crowd at RPR is legend. We will all miss him, but we are left with his many fine memories.

Bob Babilon - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

JF

“ In the short time that I knew Richard he had a significant impact on my life. He first encouraged me to join the world of Regulatory Affairs and then never stopped believing in me and investing in me. He gave me confidence to succeed and was always pushing me to challenge myself and strive to do more. While he was always busy, he was never too busy to make time to listen to me and speak with me no matter what the issue. Our conversations in the office always started in the same way. He would ask me, “How is your wife, how is your family”? When I was done telling him, Richard would then tell me how his family was, what they were up to, what adventures he had in store for them our business chats were always secondary. Family and personal life were always important to him Around the office in Great Valley we always knew when Richard was there as he was always, whistling in the halls (or singing Elvis Presley in his office) pausing only to say “Hi” to everyone he saw. He was always interested in knowing and meeting everyone in the office no matter who we were or what station in life we held. I learned that he also did this outside of the office when riding to the airport one day on the limo service. My driver asked me if I knew Richard and immediately began speaking very fondly of him as Richard would always sit up front with him and talk to him and ask him questions about his family and life for the entire journey. This kindness and approachability characterized his leadership style which was that of a servant-leader. He always seemed to know exactly when to push us and when to empower us to get the job done. He never took any credit and always gave all praise to his team. He always looked out for us and looked to protect us in all situations. We at Sanofi have lost a great leader and friend. Our department will never be the same. Richard and his legacy will live on through all of us who learned from his example and who were mentored by him personally. Additionally his legacy will live on through the patients that never knew him but are alive today because of drugs that he led to market. Marilyn we are so sorry for your loss and we share in your grief and sadness. My family and I are praying and will continue to pray for you during this painful time. Sincerely, Jeremy Dabeekeh and Family

Jeremy Dabbeek and Family - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

TF

“ *My family was lucky enough to know Richard "by marriage" when he courted and married my dearest friend, Marilyn. From our first meeting with Richard, we knew that he was, indeed, one of the "good guys!" On behalf of all of us - my husband, Harvey, my children, Thomas, Kate (and husband Michael de Zayas) and Eli, I offer condolences to Marilyn and to all who loved Richard. Richard was an ever-gracious host to me and my clan, a loving and devoted husband to my dear friend and a very proud father and grandfather. And also - an incredible tool-user who single-handedly created amazing things that always astounded me when I visited his beautiful home. Most of all, Richard had a certain indescribable grace with which he approached both happiness and adversity. His courageous battle with his disease was just another example of that spirit. All of us who had the privilege of knowing Richard are diminished by his passing. Love Wallis*

The Blumm Family - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

CP

“ *Registration of Rilutek during the Rhône Poulenc Rorer period, a successful adventure that I was lucky to share with Richard and some others. My sincere sympathy to his family and friends.*

Catherine Papillon-Downey - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

TA

“ *A few word to share, we'll miss him a lot here in France within sanofi. My thoughts go to his family I wish to extend sincere condolences to them. Rich was so nice , smiling every time I met him or talk to him on the phone. Taous Assistant at sanofi*

Taous AILANE - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

AA

“ Rich was a force wherever he went and I know many of my colleagues will agree with me that he brought a presence to discussions. At the same time quiet yet forceful his guidance for many project over many years was a major factor in moving them forwards. My personal recollection of Rich will remain a wonderful, approachable and intellectual man who knew how to be a real team player. We will miss you so much but hope you have the rewards you deserve to enjoy and the gift of peace in heaven.

Anita Burrell - anita.burrell@sanofi.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

SS

“ To the family and friends of Richard: I had the privilege of working with Richard at Wyeth years ago. He impresses us with his intelligence, dedication, integrity, and professionalism. He was a much respected leader and we were very sad when he left. My deepest sympathies to the family.

Susan Sciotto-Brown - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

EE

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Marilyn, Alina, Peter and family. I will miss Uncle Richy very much. I have many fond memories of Uncle Richy and will cherish them forever. He was the greatest uncle. My big.

Emil Gural Jr. - EmilGural@Gmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

KM

“ There are no words that can express my feelings for Rich and the many lessons he taught me: his passing has left a void in my heart. Rich was so much more than my boss- he was my trusted friend and my mentor. He taught me the skills of regulatory and the art of being a leader. Rich knew when to lead his team from the front and he also knew when and how to lead from the back- like a Shepard. Unlike many of today's leaders, Rich always deflected fame and recognition and instead opted for awarding those who trusted him and strived to do the right thing.

My heart aches knowing we will never share a meal together again, nor will I ever hear his advice and support in matters of work or life. Rich instilled the importance of balancing work and family and always advocated on behalf of his people, many times giving up his time so others could leave early or take their vacation.

I am blessed to have had such a good friend and teacher. Although today I lost my friend and Sanofi lost a leader, heaven gained an awesome addition in the ranks of angels. I will always love you Rich and am forever indebted to you for all you gave, shared, and taught me over the past 13 years.

Marilyn and family, know that your husband and father loved you more than imagined. He took every opportunity to share pictures and stories of you at every one of our meetings. People have said that Rich's devotion to his work was his love- they are wrong. Rich's love in life was you- his real family. I pray for your comfort and blessings during these difficult times.

Kevin Malobisky & Family - Malobisky@msn.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM