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GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION

AT THE FOREFRONT UChicago Medicine | Digestive Diseases Center

Celebrating 60 BRILLIANT YEARS

GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY BALL

The GI Research Foundation Diamond Anniversary Ball celebrates 60 brilliant years of transforming lives.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021

6:00 PM CT | VIRTUAL EVENT

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Celebrating 60 BRILLIANT YEARS

GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY BALL

MAY | 1 | 2021

Dear Friends and Family,

Welcome to the *GI Research Foundation Diamond Anniversary Ball*.

Tonight we are celebrating 60 brilliant years of supporting groundbreaking research and exceptional patient care at the renowned University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center.

We hope you enjoy our one-hour program, emceed by WGN-TV's Ben Bradley, and featuring an interactive performance by Emmy award-winning mentalist, Oz Pearlman, music from Maggie Speaks, and remarks from our esteemed Scientific Advisors—David T. Rubin, MD, Eugene B. Chang, MD, and Michael R. Charlton, MBBS.

Our program also honors Beatrice "Bee" G. Crain, of the Crain-Maling Foundation, with the inaugural Joseph B. Kirsner Award, and Sy and Nancy Taxman with the first-ever Partners in Science Award.

On behalf of the GIRF Board of Directors, thank you to our Angel sponsors. Their generosity ensures that every dollar raised tonight supports life-changing science.

Together, from homes all over the country, we are transforming the lives of those living with digestive diseases.

With much gratitude,
The GI Research Foundation Diamond Anniversary Ball Committee—

Karyn Hurwich, *Co-Chair*
Kathryn Karmin Shafer, *Co-Chair*
Yekaterina Chudnovsky
Beatrice G. Crain
Howard Grill
Benjamin Pogofsky

THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM

Featuring Messages of Support from our Angel Sponsors

EMCEE
Ben Bradley, WGN-TV

WELCOME REMARKS
Katie Chudnovsky, *Board President*
Kathy Shafer & Karyn Hurwich,
Ball Co-Chairs

JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD
Beatrice G. Crain/
Crain-Maling Foundation, *Recipient*
Katie Chudnovsky & Russell D. Cohen, MD,
Presenters

PARTNERS IN SCIENCE AWARD
Nancy and Seymour Taxman, *Recipients*
Howard Grill & David T. Rubin, MD, *Presenters*

MEDICAL UPDATE
David T. Rubin, MD
Eugene B. Chang, MD
Michael R. Charlton, MBBS

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS FEATURING
A. Murat Eren, PhD, Assistant Professor,
University of Chicago Medicine

Heidi Henderson, Grateful Patient

Sajan Nagpal, MBBS, Director, Pancreas Clinic,
University of Chicago Medicine

ENTERTAINMENT
Oz Pearlman, Emmy award-winning mentalist
Maggie Speaks, Chicago-based band

OZ PEARLMAN
Oz Pearlman's unique blend of mentalism and mind-reading creates an interactive experience that redefines the very nature of a magic show, one that truly needs to be seen to be believed. After captivating audiences on *America's Got Talent* with never-before-seen mentalism routines, Oz Pearlman finished in third place, out of thousands of acts. Oz has also appeared on a variety of both national and international networks, including NBC's *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, *The TODAY Show*, *ABC World News*. He has been profiled in publications including *Forbes* and the *New York Times* and performs his shows for both intimate crowds and arenas.

MAGGIE SPEAKS
For more than twenty years, Maggie Speaks been considered one of the hottest bands in the Midwest, and they are recognized for their musical entertainment around the world. Having shared the stage with acts like Earth Wind and Fire, The Doobie Brothers, .38 Special, rapper Ton Loc, Loverboy's Mike Reno, and Starship's Mickey Thomas, and covering songs from the 60s through today, the band can do it all. They bring their diverse musical talents to everything from Rock to Pop, Top 40 to Dance, Funk to Country, Hip Hop, Jazz, Motown, R&B, and more. Members of Maggie Speaks include founder and vocalist David Calzaretta, vocalist Nicole Garza, drummer Blake Cooper, bassist Shawn Sommer and guitarist Samir Varma.

WITH GRATITUDE to OUR ANGELS

DIAMOND ANGELS

BEATRICE G. CRAIN & MICHAEL S. MALING, PsyD

Nancy & Sy Taxman
THE TAXMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

PLATINUM ANGELS

GOLD ANGELS

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GCM Grosvenor
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Lora Millman & Howard Grill
The Schmitz Family Charitable Fund
Kathryn & Thomas Shafer / Kurt B. Karmin Family Foundation

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GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION MISSION + HISTORY

The GI Research Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 dedicated to raise funds to support the physicians and scientists at the University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center and their efforts to provide outstanding care, train future leaders and perform innovative clinical and laboratory research in order to treat, cure, and prevent digestive diseases.

Approximately 70 million Americans live with a digestive disease. Since 1961, the GI Research Foundation has partnered with the University of Chicago Medicine to transform their lives.

Sixty years ago, the GI Research Foundation was founded by grateful patients of Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner, a pioneer in gastroenterology who devoted his life to medicine, teaching and patient care. Today, the UChicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center is internationally recognized for research-driven medicine and highly specialized physicians. Inspired by Dr. Kirsner's vision, the GI Research Foundation helps ensure the UChicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center remains at the forefront of innovation and collaborative care.

What is GIRF?

GIRF is the Gastro Intestinal Research Foundation of Chicago oriented to the University of Chicago. GIRF is a group of people from all walks of life; many are patients, all are friends, united in a common effort to support research on the cause and cure of digestive diseases. GIRF provides funds for equipment, laboratories and the support of investigators and young physicians to the University of Chicago Gastroenterology Section, a group of dedicated doctors who seek solutions to all kinds of gastrointestinal illnesses, affecting the esophagus, the stomach, the small intestine, the large intestine, the liver, the gallbladder, and the pancreas. GIRF is an organization without politics and without bias. Everyone with a similar interest and capacity to contribute is welcome to join.

What is GIRF? GIRF, above all, is a unique blend of wonderful, kind and generous men and women giving of themselves and their resources, whose greatest reward is that inner sense of satisfaction and goodness that comes from helping Dr. Joseph Kirsner and his colleagues at the University of Chicago and, through them, helping humanity everywhere.

Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD
University of Chicago, Circa 1975

"Research is important, but the combination of research and compassionate care is the best way. It is still the best way."

– Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD

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1970–1973

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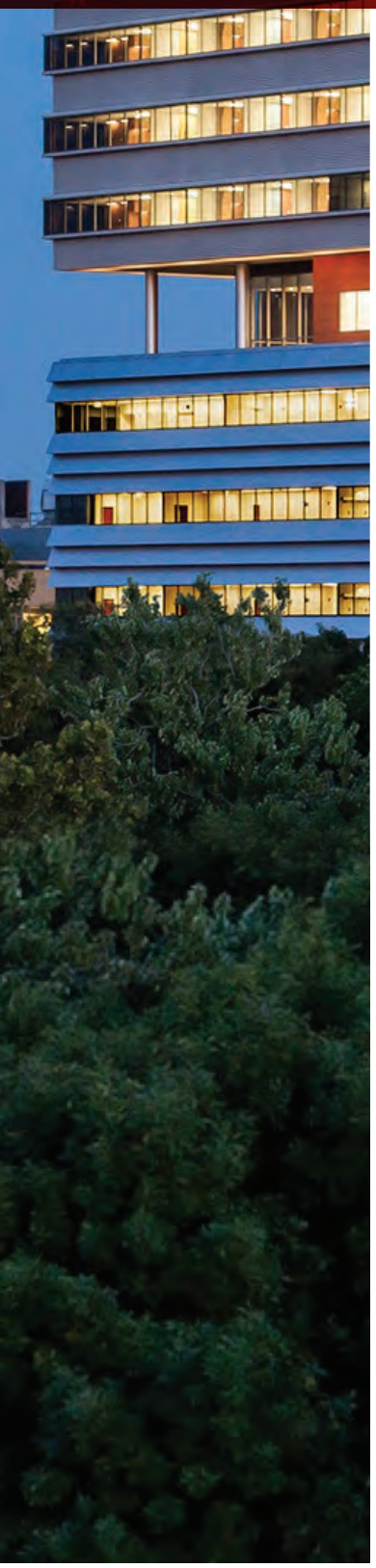
FACULTY + FELLOWS



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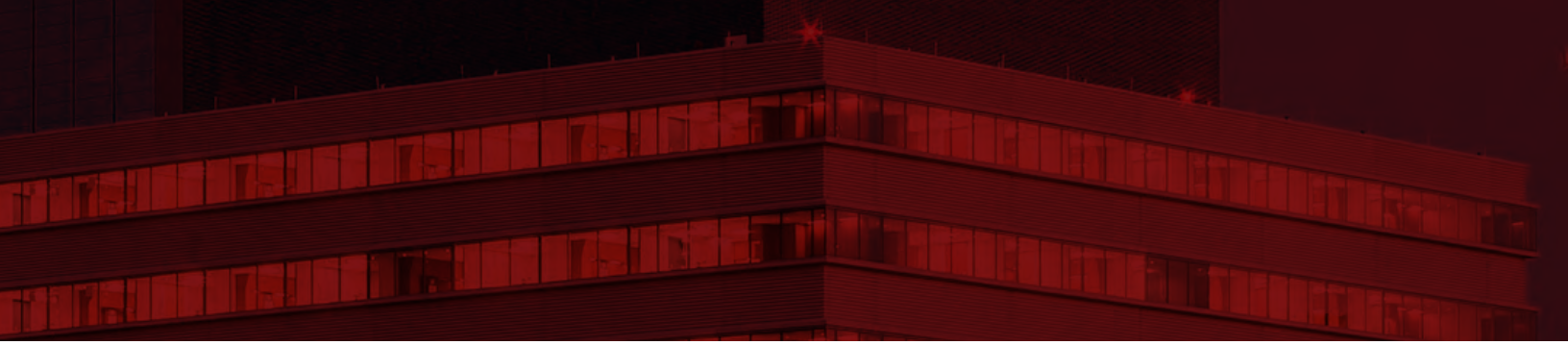

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AT THE FOREFRONT
UChicago Medicine

GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION TIMELINE

1960 | 1965 | 1970 | 1975 | 1980 | 1985 | 1990

In **1961**, two Chicago businessmen, Martin N. Sandler and Joseph E. Valenti, Sr., joined Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner in establishing the Gastro Intestinal Research Foundation.

In **1963**, GIRF hosted their inaugural dinner honoring Joseph B. Kirsner.

By the spring of **1964**, GIRF grew to over 325 members and increased their marketing presence within the clinic with the publication of the GIRF newsletter.

In August of **1964**, GIRF launched a Women's Division, which established unique fundraising events including the annual spring fashion show, greeting cards, and the publication of a GIRF cookbook, which was designed to help diversify the dull dietary routine of patients on a lengthy program of recovery. The GIRF cookbook sold 5,500 copies within the first two months and went into a second printing.

During the winter of **1965**, GIRF initiated an "equipment program," which identified 27 important pieces of medical research equipment that could be purchased by individual members.

First announced in **1968**, the Center for the Study of Digestive Diseases at the University of Chicago was established as a result of GIRF's efforts.

In the **1980s**, through a partnership between GIRF and the University of Chicago, the construction of the Joseph B. Kirsner Center at the University of Chicago was completed.

In the **mid-1980s**, GIRF contributed $500,000 over a three-year period to develop a new research program on the biology of the intestinal epithelium called The Cell-Tech Research Program.

1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020 2025

In the **1990s**, GIRF established a research facility to investigate the scientific aspects of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

In the **1990s**, the Associates Board began raising seed money to support projects initiated by fellows just starting their careers in digestive diseases research.

In the fall of **1996**, GIRF accepted the challenge of developing a research program on the genetics of inflammatory bowel disease. As a result of the money raised by GIRF and other contributors, the first gastroenterology DNA research lab was established. This lab is where the first gene known to be responsible for Crohn's disease was discovered.

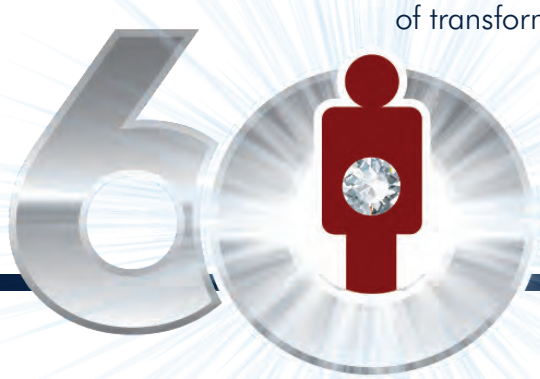
In the **2000s**, GIRF raised over $7 million dollars for equipment and laboratories to further GI research.

In **2013**, UChicago Medicine Center for Discovery and Care opened. The new hospital includes a dedicated inpatient unit for IBD patients, one of the only of its kind in the world, funded, in part, by GIRF.

In **2016**, the GI Research Foundation began supporting the University of Chicago Medicine Microbiome Medicine Initiative to discover new therapies and treatment paradigms for digestive diseases, including microbiota transfer.

In **2020**, during the height of the global pandemic, GIRF raised over $60,000 of emergency funding for healthcare workers at UChicago Medicine and over $1.4 million at its first Virtual Ball.

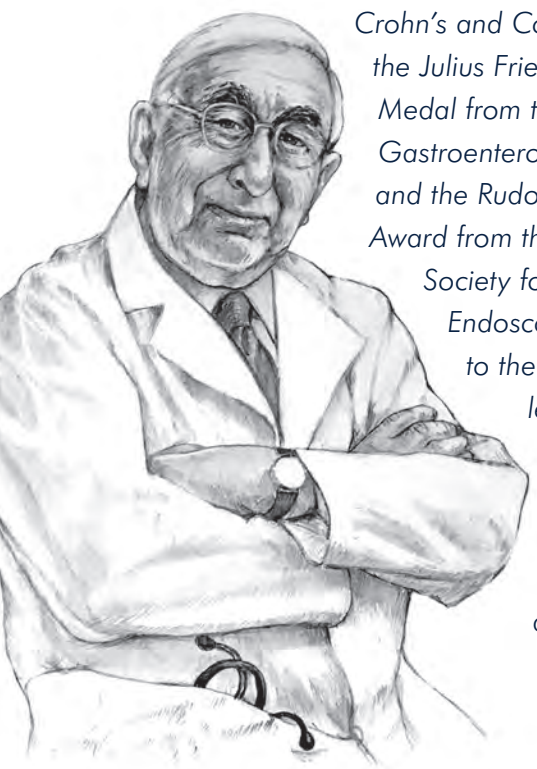
May 1, 2021, the GIRF Diamond Anniversary Ball celebrates 60 brilliant years of transforming lives!



JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD

The GI Research Foundation is privileged to present an annual tradition of honoring Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD and his legacy of advancements in research, training, and patient care. The Joseph B. Kirsner Award recognizes those who have made a substantial commitment to further and impact the GI Research Foundation's mission. **We are thrilled to present Beatrice G. Crain of the Crain-Maling Foundation with the inaugural award at GIRF's Diamond Anniversary Ball.**

Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD was a renowned physician, educator, and scientist at the University of Chicago. For more than seven decades, Dr. Kirsner devoted his life to medicine, teaching, and patient care. In recognition of his impact, he received two Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, the Julius Friedenwald Medal from the American Gastroenterological Association, and the Rudolf V. Schindler Award from the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. His dedication to the University, and his leadership in the field, helped establish the University of Chicago Medicine as an authority in digestive diseases.



Joseph B. Kirsner Award artwork commissioned and generously donated by Beatrice G. Crain / Crain-Maling Foundation.

FROM BEATRICE G. CRAIN:

"I am so pleased to be able to honor my esteemed friend, Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner with this beautiful portrait in recognition of his tremendous legacy.

Honoring Dr. Kirsner has deep meaning for me. When my daughter was ill, unrelated to a digestive disease, Dr. Joe visited her at the hospital and checked with her doctors on a daily basis. He treated my family like his own. For over 60 years, Dr. Joe was more than our friend, he became part of our family, and I am forever grateful.

It gives me great pleasure in knowing that the breakthroughs in digestive diseases research and care that began under the direction of Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner will continue through the generations of physician scientists to come at the UChicago Medicine.

He was my greatest friend.
– Bee"

Honoree

JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD

BEATRICE G. CRAIN

Crain-Maling Foundation

Chairman of the Crain-Maling Foundation and lifelong philanthropist, Beatrice "Bee" G. Crain has spent years supporting and honoring her dear friend Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner's vision of linking innovation with patient care. Bee's husband met Dr. Kirsner while serving in WWII. After the war, their friendship continued, with Bee and her husband stepping up as leaders from GIRF's first years. Over the decades, Bee has supported efforts that led to scientific breakthroughs like the discovery of the first gene associated with Crohn's disease (NOD2), supported facilities development, including the establishment of several GI and immunological laboratories and the creation of the Joseph B. Kirsner Center at the University of Chicago Medicine, and funded equipment programs for critical translational research at the University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center.

On this milestone occasion, the GI Research Foundation is proud to honor Beatrice G. Crain with the inaugural Joseph B. Kirsner Award.

Honorees

PARTNERS IN SCIENCE AWARD

NANCY AND SY TAXMAN

Founder and Former CEO of the Taxman Corp., a commercial real estate development firm, Sy Taxman originally came to UChicago Medicine as a patient. While receiving care, Sy, and his wife Nancy, developed close friendships with Dr. David T. Rubin and the late Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner. Over the years, the Taxmans have provided foundational support for projects including the Joseph B. Kirsner Endowed Fellowship—to allow physician-scientists from around the world an opportunity to train with UChicago Medicine's gastroenterologists, the Joseph B. Kirsner Endowment for Excellence—to promote excellence in research, care, and innovation, a faculty reception area in honor of Joseph B. Kirsner, and support for the translational core's research efforts.

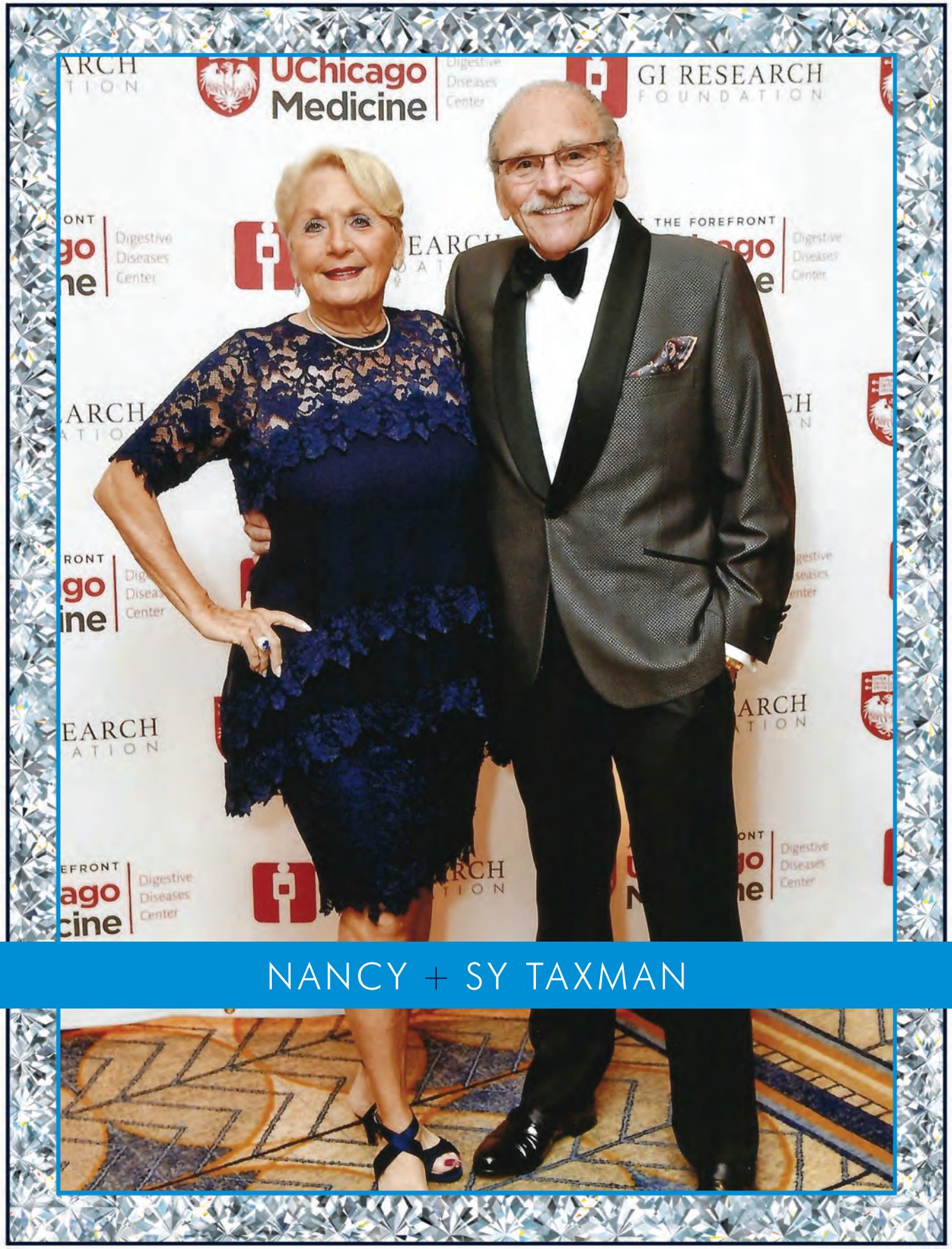
In honor of their impact on research, education and care, the GI Research Foundation is delighted to present Nancy and Sy Taxman with the first-ever Partners in Science Award during our milestone Diamond Anniversary Ball.

WITH GREAT APPRECIATION + THANKS TO OUR ANGELS!

GI RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

Crain-Maling Foundation

BEATRICE G. CRAIN + MICHAEL S. MALING, Psy.D.
CRAIN-MALING FOUNDATION



NANCY + SY TAXMAN

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Better Health, Brighter Future

GI LEADERSHIP & LEGACY

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LIFE-CHANGING SUPPORT

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https://www.takeda.com/what-we-do/therapeutic-areas

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"Invisible" diseases will soon have no place to hide.

At Janssen, we blaze paths. From pioneering biologics to redefining solutions today by advancing pathway sciences. We combine our expertise and passion to deliver bold breakthroughs and meaningful innovations to help the millions of people with immune-mediated diseases. Because we will never stop imagining a future where the most challenging diseases are thing of the past.

janssen Immunology

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Pfizer is proud to sponsor the GI Research Foundation and their 60th Anniversary Virtual Ball

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Innovative Treatments

Addressing the unique needs of patients with our portfolio of transformative treatments

Pioneering Science

Relentlessly pursuing breakthroughs across rheumatology, gastroenterology, and dermatology for patients still in need

Healthcare Solutions

Partnering with others to create solutions for the challenges of chronic inflammatory diseases, allowing patients to live their best lives

Pfizer

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Breakthroughs that change patients' lives

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GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY BALL

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With special thanks to our friend
DR. DAVID RUBIN
for excellence in clinical care, research,
and education to improve the lives of others.

LORI + JOHN POWER, AND
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With deepest gratitude for all you've done and continue to do for our family and so many others – our thanks go out to...

DR. DAVID RUBIN
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...and numerous other doctors, nurses, technicians, and staff.

Wish we had room to name you all!

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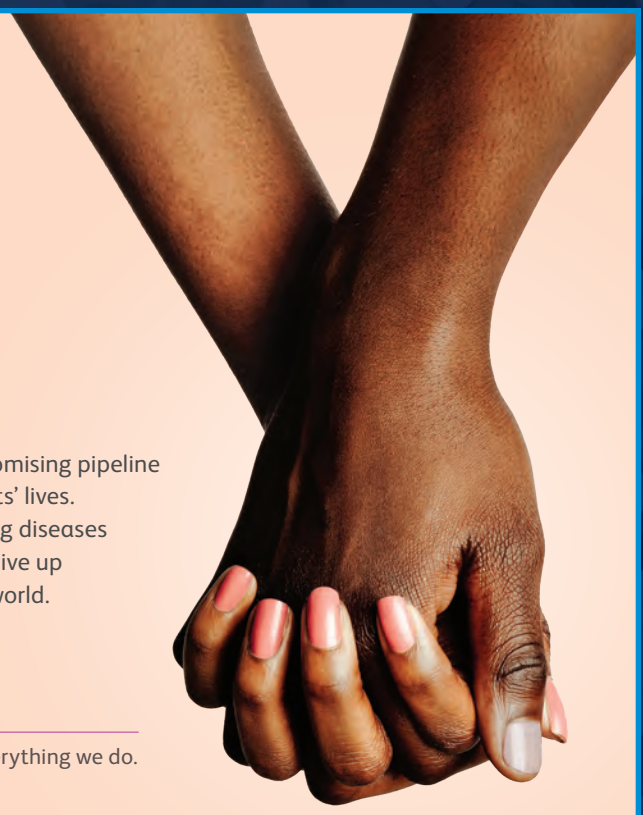

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THANK YOU

Dr. Rubin, Dr. Cohen, Dr. Chang, and Dr. Charlton for continuing to lead our Foundation to the next level of research, discovery, and cures.

Thank you to the Ball Committee for all of your hard work during these new, unknown virtual waters. We would not be able to do this without you!

Thank you to the Executive Committee for your leadership.

The biggest thank you to our Board Members and our Diamond Anniversary Ball guests—without your support we would not be here!

With love and gratitude,
KATIE CHUDNOVSKY + **FAMILY**

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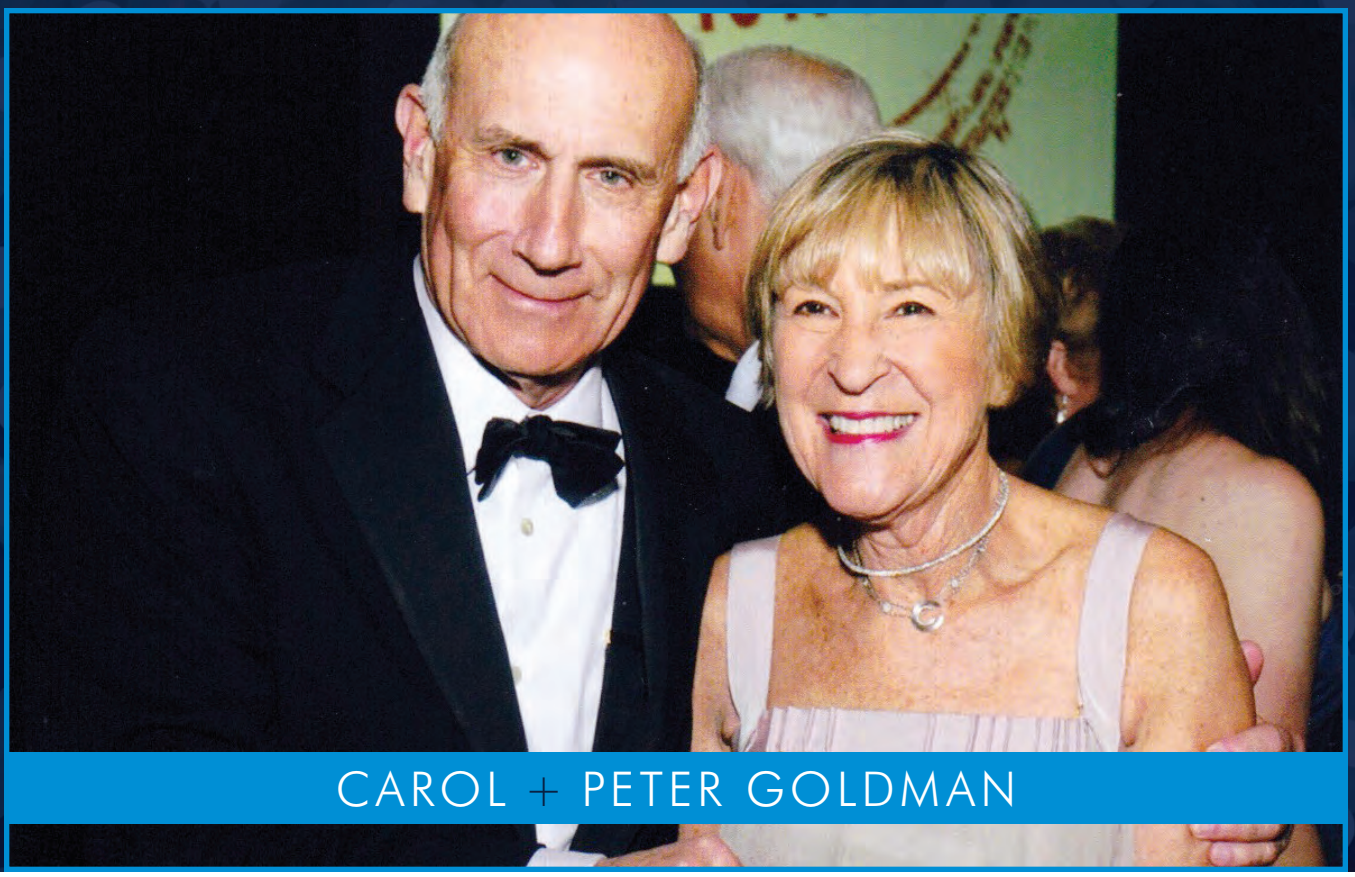

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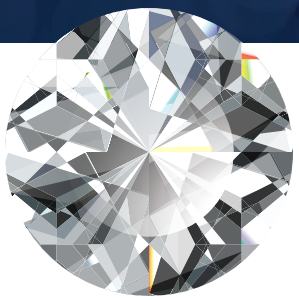

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DEAR MICHAEL,

In recognition to you, my son,
Michael S. Maling, PsyD
who has given enormous support and
loyalty to a vast number of people.

I am so proud of you and all that you do.
You are a source of inspiration to me,
and a true humanitarian.

– Mom

On behalf of our family, we extend our most heartfelt gratitude to Dr. David Rubin, Dr. Eugene Chang, Dr. Russell Cohen, and Dr. Michael Charlton and all your visionary leaders for your continued passion and dedication to improve the quality of life of children and adults affected by digestive diseases.
We are eternally grateful.

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(pronounced Yon – COO)

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TO KATIE CHUDNOVSKY,

My utmost gratitude to you in recognition of your vision and leadership as our Board President.

On behalf of those who live with digestive diseases, thank you for continuing to accelerate our respected and valuable work.

To my fellow Board Members, it is my pleasure to continue to be a part of this incredible community of volunteers. Thank you all for your for your commitment and remarkable dedication.

– Bee

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Crain-Maling Foundation

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As I once said when introducing you at one of your many charitable events:

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STEVE DAVIDSON

for his ongoing
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Thank you **Brittany Zelwin**, **Silver Hannon**, and **Deborah Barnard** for your hard work. You helped make our Diamond Anniversary Ball a great success, and made our jobs easy!

Thank you to our U of C Digestive Diseases scientists and clinicians for your tireless dedication to improving the care of so many patients, locally and around the globe.

Thanks to the GIRF Board for your hard work and support, continuing the success and mission of the GI Research Foundation.

Thank you to the Ball Committee for your time, energy, and commitment and for making this anniversary celebration a shining success.

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especially

Dr. David Rubin

Your dedication to us as patients impacts our quality of life more than you will ever know. Thank you for all the innovation in research you have done in the past and continue to do to treat, cure and prevent digestive diseases for our future.

Sincerely, Sabrina Bier & Family/Friends

The Gastro-Intestinal Research Foundation
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We would like to thank
Dr. Robert Hurst, **Dr. Russell Cohen**,
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University of Chicago Medical Center.

We truly appreciate what you
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Thank you for your vision, leadership, generosity and passion. We owe you an immense debt of gratitude for making our diamond anniversary a smashing success.

THE GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION

"SHOUT OUTS"

" KUDOS to DAVID RUBIN...An outstanding Doctor. A brilliant scholar.
An inspiring leader. A humble humanitarian, And a Real "Mensch!"
May you go from strength to strength. "
– Abby + Larry Block

" A deeply sincere "Thank You" to Dr. David Rubin & Dr. Shivani Patel for their kindness, concern & dilligence in providing such fantastic care for our daughter! "
– Craig, Alicia + Sydney Cain
Tucson, AZ

" Shout out to "TEAM COHEN" for your amazing perseverance through this all! "
– Dr. + Mrs. Russell Cohen

" Congratulations to the entire GI Team for providing outstanding care always, and especially during this tough year. "
– Sandy + Steve Davidson

" Bee! With love and pride ❤ "
– Jill + Ron Ferdinand

" Thank you to our "Dream Team" of doctors. David Rubin and Michael Charlton. Thank you for the gift of life. "
– Love, Brad + Rebecca, Charlotte, Rachel, Harper Goodman

" Bee, congratulations on receiving this meaningful award for your strong support GI research. Well deserved. "
– Sharon + Joel Greenburg

" Thank you to Dr. Rubin and his care team for your kindness, support and medical care. GIRF, thank you for your extensive research initiatives. I don't know where I'd be without you all. "
– Heidi Henderson

"SHOUT OUTS"

" The colorectal surgery section expresses our pride and appreciation for our colleague Dr. David T. Rubin's receipt of the Sherman award!! "

– Neil Hyman, MD

" Congratulations to Beatrice Crain! Her dedication to honoring Dr. Kirsner's legacy and contributions to the GI Research Foundation have resulted in many patient recoveries. "

– House of Kahn

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" Congratulations to Bee and GIRF! "

– Fran + Ann Klocke

" We would just like to honor the memory of a wonderful man, doctor, husband, father, son, and friend Dr. Daniel Hurwich of Munster Indiana. Dan was beloved by everyone and is missed terribly by all who had the honor to be under his rainbow. "

– The Kogen Family

" In memory of Daniel Hurwich. "

– Betsy + Peter Marvelis

" Congratulations Bee! So happy and proud of your hard work and commitment. "

– Love, the Nazaris

" Beatrice G. Crain, generous champion of GIRF and the late Dr. Joe ... Congratulations on receiving this well deserved inaugural Joseph B. Kirsner award. "

– With love to my dear friend, Dr. Linda Weinfield

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION WISHES TO THANK OUR PARTNERS WHO HAVE HELPED TO MAKE OUR DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY BALL A SUCCESS:

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The GI Research Foundation (GIRF) is a non-profit 501(c)3 dedicated to raise funds to support the physicians and scientists at the University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center in their efforts to provide outstanding care, train future leaders, and perform innovative clinical and laboratory research in order to treat, cure, and prevent digestive diseases.

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