Congratulations to the 2024 honoree, Sy Taxman, on receiving the Joseph B. Kirsner Award!

The GI Foundation has dedicated itself to raising funds in support of the University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center and Mr. Taxman is at the forefront of those efforts. He is not only a devoted benefactor, but a caring advocate for those who fervently treat, prevent, and cure digestive diseases and those that benefit from such work.

Miramar Capital is proud and honored to assist in this effort and in acknowledging our friend, Mr. Sy Taxman, who truly exemplifies a true humanitarian in action!

Miramar Capital, LLC
Bob Kalman
Max Wasserman
HONORING

SY TAXMAN

CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR INCREDIBLE
PHILANTHROPIC EFFORTS.

YOUR KINDNESS
AND GENEROSITY ARE TRULY
INSPIRING.

WE APPLAUD SY AND NANCY
FOR MAKING SUCH A POSITIVE
IMPACT, IN SO MANY WAYS,
WITH THE SPECIAL
THINGS THEY DO.

BARBARA AND DONALD
ROSUCK

JUNE 1, 2024

Dear Friends and Family,

Welcome to the GI Research Foundation Annual Ball.

We are celebrating life-changing research for patients living with digestive diseases.

We hope you enjoy tonight's program—with research funding highlights from an extraordinary year; the Joseph B. Kirsner Award presentation to Sy Taxman; remarks from lead scientific advisor, David T. Rubin, MD; and a video presentation featuring GI Research Foundation-funded scientists and their patients. Our evening concludes with a performance from Emmy-nominated actor and comedian, Kevin Nealon.

Thank you to our generous sponsors, the physician-scientists behind transformative research, and to you, our guests, who make tonight's success possible. Together, we can imagine a world without digestive diseases.

With much gratitude,

The GI Research Foundation Ball Committee,

Amy Goldman, Chair        Beth Gottlieb
Jennifer Riback, Chair     Pam Greenfield
Daniel Borstein            Howard Grill
Katie Chudnovsky            Karyn Hurwich
Jeff Fine                  Kathy Shafer
Samantha Fisher
WELCOME REMARKS
Amy Goldman, Ball Co-Chair
Jennifer Riback, Ball Co-Chair

HONORING OUR RESEARCHERS
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JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD
David T. Rubin, MD, Presenter
Seymour “Sy” Taxman, Recipient

LIVE AUCTION AND PADDLE RAISE
Jim Miller

MISSION VIDEO

MUSIC
The Gold Coast All Stars

Kevin Nealon

Kevin Nealon is an Emmy and SAG-nominated actor and comedian who sets himself apart from other comedic performers with his unique sense of humor, dry wit, and likable demeanor. Nealon is best known for his nine-year stint on NBC’s Saturday Night Live and received critical acclaim for his role in the hit Showtime series Weeds. Kevin produces and hosts his digital series Hiking with Kevin and tours his stand-up globally. In 2022, he released his latest book, I Exaggerate: My Brushes with Fame.

Nealon has found great comedic success in his extensive film and television career. In Anger Management, he played opposite Jack Nicholson and Adam Sandler. He and Sandler also teamed up in Eight Crazy Nights, The Wedding Singer, Happy Gilmore, Just Go With It, Blended, and You Don’t Mess with the Zohan. In Joe Dirt, Nealon joined another SNL alumnus David Spade. Additional film credits include Daddy Day Care, Good Boy, Bucky Larsen: Born to be a Star, Roxanne, and Grandma’s Boy.

Nealon’s extensive television credits include the CBS sitcom, Man with a Plan, starring alongside Matt LeBlanc, Showtime’s Weeds, two critically acclaimed stand-up specials for Showtime; and a number of appearances on Hot in Cleveland, Franklin & Bash, Monk, Curb Your Enthusiasm and Still Standing.
DINNER MENU

FIRST COURSE:

ASSORTED ROLLS AND BUTTER

BABY SPINACH SALAD
Torched red grapes, charred red onion, heirloom tomato, cotija cornbread croutons, chili-lime pepitas, Fresno-orange vinaigrette

ENTRÉE (CHOICE OF):

PARMESAN CRUSTED CAULIFLOWER
Seasonal vegetable puree, roasted heirloom potatoes, haricot vert, white balsamic vinaigrette

GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST
Seasonal vegetable puree, roasted heirloom potatoes, haricot vert, citrus chicken jus

GRILLED SALMON
Seasonal vegetable puree, roasted heirloom potatoes, haricot vert, grain mustard vinaigrette

RIOJA BRAISED SHORT RIB
Seasonal vegetable puree, roasted heirloom potatoes, haricot vert, smoked jus

DESSERT MENU

FAMILY STYLE:

MINI BUTTERSCOTCH POT DE CREME (GF)

MINI CHOCOLATE TART

ASSORTED MACARONS

FRUIT SKEWERS (GF, DF, V)

FRESHLY BREWED REGULAR & DECAFFEINATED COFFEE, SELECTION OF RISHI HERBAL TEAS
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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MISSION AND HISTORY

The GI Research Foundation works to treat, prevent, and cure digestive diseases. In collaboration with the physicians and scientists at the University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center, we fund innovative clinical and laboratory research, leading to groundbreaking discoveries that transform lives.

Seventy million Americans of all ages, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds live with digestive diseases—ranging from daily difficulties to chronic and debilitating conditions to fatal diseases. The GI Research Foundation proudly partners with the renowned University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center to fund groundbreaking research. As independent collaborators, the GI Research Foundation has a front-row seat to innovation.

In 1961, the GI Research Foundation was founded by grateful patients and friends of the late Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD, a pioneer in gastroenterology who devoted his life to medicine, teaching, and patient care. Practicing at the University of Chicago Medicine for 71 years, Dr. Kirsner helped establish UChicago Medicine as one of the leading GI programs in the United States. Today, the UChicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center is internationally recognized for research-driven medicine and its team of highly specialized physicians.

Inspired by Dr. Kirsner’s vision, the Foundation funds research that is changing the lives of patients all over the world through treatment advancements, care innovations, and discovering cures for digestive diseases.

“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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<th>INCOMING FELLOWS (2023 - 2024)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NISHA HOWARTH, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>SURYA KHAÐLIKAR, MD</td>
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<td>EMMA LEVINE, MD</td>
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<td>RUSSELL YANOFSKY, MD</td>
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<td>REBECCA YAO, MD</td>
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<td>MEREDITH YELLEN, MD</td>
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<th>GI ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS</th>
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<td>JAYMINE ANDERSON, AGNP-BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAVID CHOI, PHARMD</td>
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<td>ARCHIYA PUANGAMPAI, PHARMD</td>
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<th>GENETICS COUNSELOR</th>
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<tr>
<td>CHRISTINE DROGAN, CGC</td>
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<td>EMMA KEEL, CGC</td>
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<th>REGISTERED DIETITIANS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VALERIE REYNOLDS, MS, RD, CNSC, LDN</td>
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<tr>
<td>COURTNEY SCHUCHMANN, MS, RD, LDN</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAILEY TORKELSON, MS, RD</td>
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<td>ELIZABETH WALL, MS, RD, LDN, CNSD</td>
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<td>LORI WELSTEAD, MS, RD, LDN</td>
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</table>
Seymour “Sy” Taxman is founder and former CEO of the Chicago real estate development company Taxman Corp. The firm has developed shopping centers, drugstores, supermarkets, and properties throughout the Chicagoland area. Sy was born and raised on the city’s west side. After beginning his career as a Northwestern-trained lawyer, Taxman launched Taxman Corp. from his family room in 1975.

In addition to his advocacy for the GI Research Foundation and digestive diseases research, Sy and his family have celebrated the legacy of Joseph B. Kirsner, MD through their philanthropy. They have provided millions of dollars in research and medical training support at The University of Chicago Medicine through the GI Research Foundation. In 2012, the Taxman Family Foundation gave $2.5 million to establish, among other projects, the Joseph B. Kirsner Endowed Fellowship and the Joseph B. Kirsner Endowment for Excellence. The fellowship enables young physicians from around the world to train with top gastroenterologists and other specialists at UChicago Medicine. The excellence fund helps ensure that UChicago Medicine remains at the forefront of GI patient care, research, and education. It is also used for the alumni reception at the annual professional scientific meeting, and at which distinguished junior and senior alumni are recognized.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS THRILLED TO PRESENT SY WITH THE 2024 JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD.
The Joseph B. Kirsner Award recognizes those who have made a substantial commitment to impact and further the GI Research Foundation’s mission.

About the Award

Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD was a renowned physician, educator, and scientist at the University of Chicago Medicine. For more than seven decades, Dr. Kirsner, devoted his life to medicine, teaching, and patient care. The GI Research Foundation is privileged to uphold its tradition of honoring Dr. Kirsner’s legacy. The Joseph B. Kirsner Award recognizes those who have made a substantial commitment to impact and further the GI Research Foundation’s mission.

Past Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Beatrice “Bee” Crain</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>David T. Rubin, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Eugene B. Chang, MD</td>
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Thank you to our generous sponsors
THANK YOU, DR. RUBIN, DR. COHEN, DR. CHANG, AND DR. CHARLTON FOR CONTINUING TO LEAD OUR FOUNDATION.

AS CHAIRPERSON, I AM COMMITTED TO HELPING YOU IDENTIFY GROUNDBREAKING SCIENCE THAT WILL CHANGE LIVES.

THANK YOU TO THE BALL COMMITTEE FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THIS EVENING. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!

THANK YOU TO PRESIDENT, KATHY SHAFER, FOR YOUR DILIGENT LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO GIRF.

THE BIGGEST THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD MEMBERS AND GUESTS—WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT WE WOULD NOT BE HERE!

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE,
YEKATERINA CHUDNOVSKY & FAMILY

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NIVES AND JOE RIZZA
Great leaders make an organization great. We applaud Sy Taxman for his unwavering leadership and extraordinary generosity toward achieving the GI Research Foundation mission.

We thank Dr. David Rubin and the UChicago Medicine’s team of compassionate care professionals and innovative scientists who work tirelessly to end digestive diseases and transform lives.

Thank you Dr. David Rubin for all that you do to help advance the cure of GI diseases!

The Valerie and Lee Shapiro Family
Bartlett Wealth Management is pleased to support the GI Research Foundation.

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There is nothing more important than the health and well-being of the communities we work and live in. That’s why CIBC is proud to support the GI Research Foundation’s Annual Ball.

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Congratulations!

WE SALUTE THE EXCELLENCE IN MEDICAL RESEARCH SO VITAL IN FINDING THE CAUSES AND REMEDIES OF GASTROINTESTINAL DISEASES.

CAROL & PETER GOLDMAN
AMY & JEFF GOLDMAN
EMMA & LILY GOLDMAN
KAREN GOLDMAN
WE ARE SO PROUD TO BE A PART OF SUCH A WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION. FROM WORLD-CLASS PATIENT CARE TO FACILITIES AND RESOURCES THAT SET THE GOLD STANDARD, THE GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION IS IN A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN.

AMY, WE ARE IN AWE OF YOUR DEDICATION TO THIS CAUSE, AND ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK ON THIS EVENT. THE DEEP COMPASSION THAT YOU SHOW EACH AND EVERY DAY FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY IS INSPIRING.

WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH!
LOVE, JEFF, EMMA & LILY GOLDMAN
BRONZE SPONSOR
BRAD PETERSON AND MATT HUMBARGER

THANK YOU TO GIRF AND ITS MISSION!

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JENNIFER AND BENJAMIN RIBACK

THANK YOU TO THE GIRF FOUNDATION, THE AMAZING STAFF AND ALL OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS THAT ARE WORKING TIRELESSLY TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF EVERYONE IMPACTED BY GI DISEASES.

WE ARE SO APPRECIATIVE FOR THE CARE AND ATTENTION FROM DR. RUBIN AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND PROUD TO BE A SMALL PART OF THE ONGOING FIGHT FOR A CURE.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GIRF BALL CHAIRS AND BOARD ON ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL GIRF BALL.

AND A PERSONAL THANK YOU TO MY WIFE, JENNIFER, WHO CONTINUES TO IMPRESS WITH HER PASSION AND SUPPORT FOR THIS CAUSE AND OUR FAMILY!

WITH LOVE TO ALL, THE RIBACKS
THANK YOU TO THE BOARD OF THE GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PATIENTS WITH DIGESTIVE DISEASES THROUGH YOUR FUNDING AND SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND PATIENT CARE.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MEDICINE DIGESTIVE DISEASES CENTER INVOLVED IN THE CARE OF SO MANY, AND FOR TIRELESSLY WORKING TO MAKE EACH DAY BETTER.

KATHY AND TOM SHAFER
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REBECCA AND JEFFREY NATHANSON
KARYN HURWICH
KAREN AND JEFFREY FINE
KELLY AND MICHAEL GOLDBERG
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TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE
GI cancer diagnoses in younger people are growing faster than any other type of cancer. People living with a digestive disease are at an increased risk.

With extraordinary support from anonymous donors, CA CURE launched to fund research to advance the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of GI cancers.

FUNDING PROJECTS WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR IMMEDIATE IMPACT.

John A. Copland, PhD
Keith Knutson, MD
Saad Kenderian, MB, ChB
Mayo Clinic
$5,942,244

Pashtoon M. Kasi, MD, MS
Weill Cornell Medicine
$290,000
Hoosier Cancer Research Network
$1,100,000

Elicio Therapeutics, Inc.
$5,358,596

Scott Kopetz, MD, PhD
MD Anderson
$3,519,021

Christopher Mason, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine
$833,515

RareCyte, Inc.
$2,602,596

Aliasger K. Salem, PhD
University of Iowa
$1,698,949

Kiran Turaga, MD
Yale School of Medicine
$1,382,041

LEARN MORE
THANK YOU TO CA CURE’S REVIEW PANEL, EXPERTS IN HIGH-RISK GI CANCERS.

CA CURE Leadership

David T. Rubin, MD
UChicago Medicine

Yekaterina Chudnovsky
GI Research Foundation, Board Chair

CA CURE Scientific Review Panel

Christine Drogan, MS
UChicago Medicine

Pashtoon Kasi, MD
Weill Cornell Medicine

Scott Kopetz, MD
MD Anderson

Christopher Mason, PhD
Weill Cornell Medicine

Kiran Turaga, MD
Yale School of Medicine

Christopher Weber, MD
UChicago Medicine

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS YEAR’S IMPACT POSSIBLE.

FISCAL YEAR 2024
COMPETITIVE GRANT CYCLE
WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE
YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS
COMPETITIVE GRANT CYCLE

MARC BISSONNETTE, MD
DNA Methylation as a Biomarker of Ulcerative Colitis
Dysplasia in Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis

ORLANDO DELEON, PHD
Examination of Gut Mucosal Populations and Dynamics
During region-specific Microbiota Transplants

BRADFORD CHONG, MD
Pancreatic Cancer Outcomes: The Role of Social Determinants of Health in an Urban Cohort

CAMBRIAN LIU, PHD
Building Experimental Tools to Assess the Gut Microbiome’s Effects on Gastrointestinal Regeneration

MATTHEW ODENWALD, MD PHD
Characterization of Novel Bile Acids in Patients with Liver Disease

KINGA S. OLORTEGUI, MD
MARITA KAMETAS, MSN
Evaluating the Incidence of and Treatments for Peristomal Pyoderma Gangrenosum

DAVID T. RUBIN, MD
JOËLLE ST-PIERRE, MD PHD
Stop-UC: De-escalation of Therapy in Patients with Ulcerative Colitis

David Zemmour, MD, PhD
Understanding Colon-Specific Regulatory T Cells and their Cellular Crosstalk in Ulcerative Colitis

WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

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  A centralized biobank and repository of data and biospecimens from 12,000 patients. Serves as a critical and unique engine that drives research and scientific discovery.

• Mass Spectrometer
  Vital equipment to support research projects to restore the health of a patient’s damaged microbiome; better understand the connection between mental health and IBD; measure bile acids to explain the increased risk of colorectal cancer in African Americans; and identify microbe-derived molecules that regulate intestinal stem cell development for wound healing and tissue regeneration in IBD.

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS
FUNDING SCIENTISTS EARLY IN THEIR CAREERS

• Andrea Berkemeyer, DO: Defining the Health of the Early Life Gut Microbiome

• William Roth, MD: The Gut Microbiome in Penetrating Brain Injury

• Tenzin Choden, MD: Point of Care Ultrasound as a Tool to Assess Sarcopenia Risk in Patients with IBD

• Alvin George, MD: The Use of Virtual Reality and AI in Managing Anxiety in IBD Patients
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GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION
and its mission to treat, cure and prevent digestive diseases.

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SY TAXMAN

FROM

Michael and Jessie Georgopulos

Alex and Margie Georgopulos
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Thomas B. Reading
Senior Vice President, Senior Portfolio Advisor
412.447.6080
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TBReading@couriercapital.com | CourierCapital.com

We proudly support the Gastro-Intestinal Research Foundation

And thank

Howard Grill
For his hard work and leadership

We wish you continued success

Barbara and Stuart Hochwert

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Dr. David T. Rubin

We are so proud of all you have done and continue to do!

Love,
Mom and Dad
TPMB Congratulates SY TAXMAN

We are proud of Uncle Sy's dedication and commitment to the GI Research Foundation and we support its mission to treat, prevent and cure digestive diseases.

________________________________________

Honoring our brilliant and dedicated scientists, physicians, and support staff. Your continued research, discoveries, and implementation of new treatments improves quality of life around the globe. Thank you for your hard work, and for your unwavering commitment to making life better for so many who struggle with digestive disease.

Karyn Hurwich
HLM Capital Management Group congratulates Sy Taxman for being awarded the 2024 Joseph B. Kirsner Award.
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**Gratitude**

There is growing evidence that gratitude improves our individual well-being and physical health.

Leading psychologist, Dr. Robert Emmons said, “Gratitude helps people realize that they wouldn’t be where they are without the help of others.”

So, for our health and because YOU make our success possible, the GI Research Foundation staff thanks YOU for your time, talents, treasures, and tenacity.

Our Board of Directors,
Emerging Leaders Council and Volunteers
Scientific Advisors
UChicago Medicine Care Team
Scientists and Researchers
at UChicago Medicine and Beyond
Our Donors
Our Guests

With Deepest Appreciation,

Deborah Barnard, Major Gifts Officer
Deborah Brill, Development Coordinator
Jackie Casey, Executive Director
Allison Thielen, Finance and Operations Manager
Brittany Zelwin, Fundraising Manager
Thank you, Long Family & Friends, for your generosity and hospitality. Your support raised over $15,000 for our Emerging Leaders Council’s Young Investigator Awards. Grateful for your support!

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Monday August 5, 2024
Bryn Mawr Country Club
Lincolnwood, Illinois
IN LOVING MEMORY OF LONG-TIME GIRF BOARD MEMBER RALPH KAUFMANN
YOUR IMPACT ENDURES.

THE KAUFMANN, KING AND NELSON FAMILIES

IN HONOR OF BEN AND JEN RIBACK AND FAMILY FOR YOUR CONTINUED DEDICATION AND SUPPORT OF THE GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO SY TAXMAN ON THE HONOR OF RECEIVING THE JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD.

CHERYL AND RON RIBACK
IN HONOR OF
SY TAXMAN
RECIPIENT OF THE PRESTIGIOUS
GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION
JOSEPH B. KIRSNER AWARD

MARVIN AND GENNY ROSENBERG

David, thank you for all you do.
I am a much better physician because of our
friendship, and that's true for countless other
health professionals. You are truly a good
and honorable man.

With appreciation,
Rockford G. Yapp, MD, MPH, AGAF
Co-Founder/Executive Board
GI Partners of Illinois

Thank you to our excellent GIRF leadership,
Board, and executive staff for the hard work
that makes this important event a success.

I'm proud to support our GI Research
Foundation, which drives the discoveries
that improve patient care and outcomes.

Karyn Hurwich

S/Point Ventures proudly supports
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SEYMOUR TAXMAN,
CONGRATULATIONS ON A 
WELL-DESERVED AWARD.
YOUR FRIEND,
ALAN PORTNOY

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Dr. David T. Rubin and his 
outstanding clinical team; 
As well as the vital research 
into Crohn’s Disease and 
Ulcerative Colitis.
The Ackerman Family 
Max, Donna, Bruce, 
Bruce Jr. and Krisette

IN HONOR OF 
SANDY AND STEVE 
DAVIDSON,
FOR ALL YOU DO 
FOR ALL YOU ARE 
With love, 
Julie and Roger

Sy Taxman and the rest 
of the honorees at the 
annual Ball. Thank you 
for your generosity!
Brad and Lesley Sarnoff

THANK YOU TO MY 
fellow GIRF Board 
Members, Scientific 
Advisors and Executive 
Staff for all of your hard 
work! A huge thanks to 
Dr. Rubin and your care 
team for all you do.
Heidi Henderson 
and Josh Yates

KEEP UP THE GREAT 
WORK RIBACKS!
LOVE,
THE CARLETTI FAMILY

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SANDY AND STEVE 
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KEEP UP THE GREAT 
WORK RIBACKS!
LOVE,
THE CARLETTI FAMILY

In honor of the Goldman 
Family for their continued 
efforts to support digestive 
disease research.
Love 
Gary, Jamie, Scarlett, 
and Brody Siegel

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The GI Research Foundation

Congratulations
to

Amy Goldman, Jennifer Riback, and
the 2024 Ball Committee on a successful night
in support of digestive diseases research

and

Sy Taxman on the prestigious
Joseph B. Kirsner Award.

Daniel Borstein | Managing Member
dan@booncap.com
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