

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



IMA GINE

Research
Foundation
Annual
Ball

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

WELCOME

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 physicianscientists 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 Ber Jennifer Riback, Chair Par Daniel Borstein Ho Katie Chudnovsky Kar Jeff Fine Kar

Beth Gottlieb
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THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM

WELCOME REMARKS

Amy Goldman, Ball Co-Chair Jennifer Riback, Ball Co-Chair

HONORING OUR RESEARCHERS

Yekaterina Chudnovsky, Board Chair Kathryn Karmin Shafer, Board President

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

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MANAGEMENT



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

Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD

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.

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SY TAXMAN

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

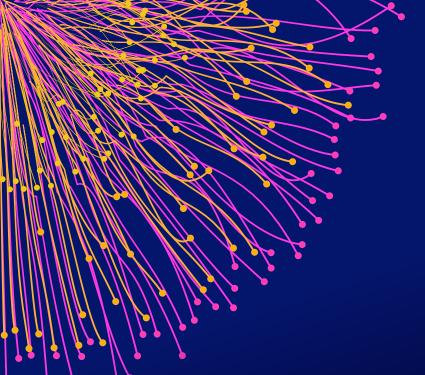
ABOUT THE AWARD

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

2021 Beatrice "Bee" Crain2022 David T. Rubin, MD2023 Eugene B. Chang, MD



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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 COMMITTMENT 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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Digestive diseases are common, impacting millions of Americans every year. Challenges remain for many — especially in under-resourced communities — as the journey to diagnosis and the right management can be complex, frustrating and slow. $^{3.45}$

For nearly 30 years, Takeda and our collaborative partners have worked to improve the lives of people with gastrointestinal (GI) conditions through innovative therapies and dedicated patient support programs. It's why we focus on areas with the most significant unmet needs, such as GI inflammation, short bowel syndrome, liver disease and motility disorders.

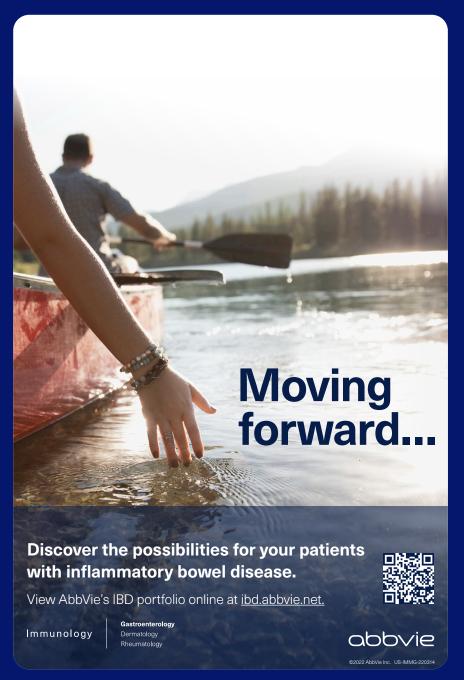
Despite advances that have been made, there is still so much more to be done. In many ways, we're just getting started.

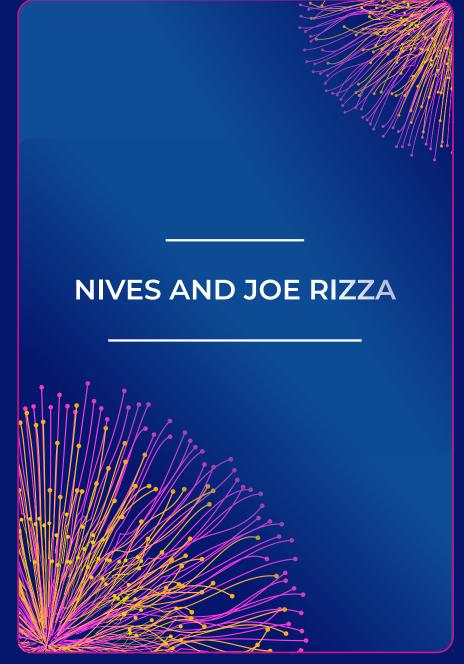
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L Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. EnatStats. - Digestive Diseases page Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Website. https://www.co.com/cnfs/fastats/ligestive-diseases/manuary/ig.2023.2 Mathews SC, Izmailyan, Entiro FA, Yamal JM, Milkhall O, Revere FL. Prevalence and financial burden of digestive diseases in a commercially insured population. Clim Gastroender Heasest. 2022.02(07):180-1847. Singh ME. James SP, Germino GG, Rodgers GP. Achieving health equity through digestive diseases research and scientific word/orce widerstly. Castroenders/olgy. 2021;55(71):242-254. 5. Popov J, Farbod Y, Chauhan U, et al. Platents' experiences and challenges in Nivay Will inflammatory bowed disease care qualitative approach. Clin Eug Gastroenterol. 2021;1423-51. Since 2023. Takeda Pharmacouticals U.S.A., Inc. All rights reserved. Takeda and the Takeda logo are trademarks or registered trademarks or Tradead Pharmacoutical Company Limited.



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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!

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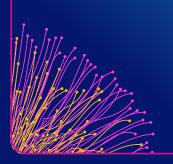
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WE ARE SO PROUD TO BE A PART OF SUCH A WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION. FROM WORLD-CLASS PATIENT CARE TO FACILITIES AND RESOURCES THAT SET THE GOLD STANDARD, THE GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION IS IN A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN.

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



BRAD PETERSON AND MATT HUMBARGER

JENNIFER AND BENJAMIN RIBACK



THANK YOU TO GIRF AND ITS MISSION!

THANK YOU TO THE GIRF FOUNDATION,
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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

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THANK YOU TO THE BOARD OF
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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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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.



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RareCyte, Inc. \$2,602,596



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

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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

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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 Al in Managing Anxiety in IBD Patients



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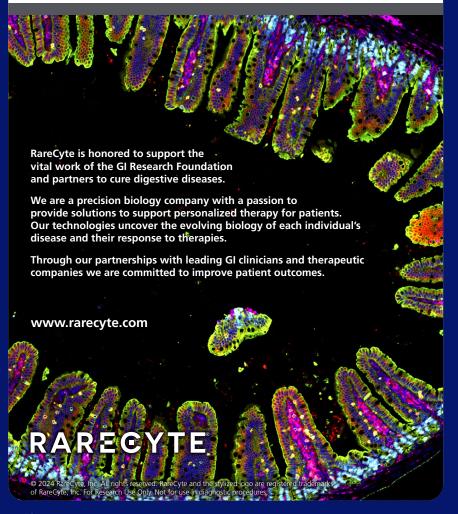


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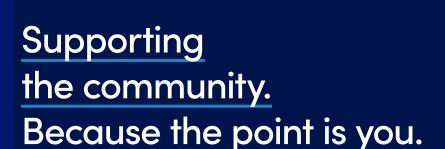
SY TAXMAN

FROM



Michael and Jessie Georgopulos

Alex and Margie Georgopulos



Courier Capital is proud to support the GI Research Foundation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Thomas B. Reading

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We proudly support the Gastro-Intestinal Research Foundation

And thank

Howard Grill For his hard work and leadership

We wish you continued success

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Curi RMB Capital is a proud supporter of the GI Research Foundation.

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Dr. David T. Rubin

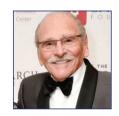
We are so proud of all you have done and continue to do!

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.

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Karyn Hurwich



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AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO DIGESTIVE DISEASES RESEARCH



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.

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64 6!

IN LOVING MEMORY OF LONG-TIME GIRF BOARD MEMBER RALPH KAUFMANN YOUR IMPACT ENDURES.

THE KAUFMANN, KING AND NELSON FAMILIES



Photo credit: Amelia Davis, Abadie Lab, University of Chicago Medicine





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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
JOESPH 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



S/Point Ventures proudly supports the Riback family for their steadfast dedication to gastrointestinal research.

Their unwavering commitment is truly inspiring.

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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

TO MY DEAR FRIEND 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 the Goldman Family for their continued efforts to support digestive disease research.

> Love Gary, Jamie, Scarlett, and Brody Siegel

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

Brad and Lesley Sarnoff

IN HONOR OF
SANDY AND STEVE
DAVIDSON,
FOR ALL YOU DO
FOR ALL YOU ARE

With love, Julie and Roger 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

WORK RIBACKS!

LOVE,

THE CARLETTI FAMILY





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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.

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