

Galen Martin, M.D.

Galen Martin passed away peacefully at his home in Nevada City, California on November 2 with his family and friends at his side. He was 69.

He had fought a long and courageous nine year fight with bone cancer.

He will never be forgotten by all he touched.

I first met Galen in 1976 when we were both recruited to practice family medicine at the, then struggling, new outpatient office complex next to Redwood Memorial Hospital. Galen had just finished working for the State Department in the South Pacific, providing medical services for Peace Corp Volunteers. We began practicing together the very next day. We were both very young and inexperienced and we grew-up together, both as physicians and human beings. He became my best friend.

He moved to Nevada City in 1990 to be closer to his aging and ailing father. He practiced family medicine there until 2014.

Galen was many things to many people. He was an all-star football player who turned down a full athletic scholarship to Dartmouth to attend UC Berkeley and UCSF Medical School. He was a master gardener and fly fisherman.

Most of all he was an incredible father, son, husband, grandfather, and friend.

He had an incredible openness and friendliness. His patients loved him and have continued to ask about him every week.

When I came out of training, I knew a lot of science, but it was Galen who taught me how to be a family physician, and I thank him for that.

This spring there will be an outdoor celebration for Galen in Nevada City and his family hope that some from Humboldt can attend and speak of their experiences with Galen.

Memorial donations can be made to the Galen Martin Medical Scholarship Fund through the Tri-Counties Bank and his wife Jeanine.