



## Rifaqat Khan

January 1, 1960 - May 4, 2012

Dr Rifaqat Ali Mohammed Khan, age 52, of Dixon died unexpectedly on Friday, May 4, 2012 in a tragic boating accident on the Rock River. Dr. Khan was born on January 1, 1960 to Aquil Ali and Nafeesa Khan in Gulbarga, India and grew up in Mysore, India. He was an accomplished cricketer and earned a black belt in karate. At age 18, he returned to Gulbarga to attend K.R. Medical College and then moved to the United States after graduating to complete his residency in Internal Medicine at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, IL. Upon completion of his training in 1993, he joined Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital as a staff physician. He was a member of the Sauk Valley Islamic Center, Volunteer Care Center, American Medical Association, Lee County Medical Society and Doctors Without Borders. Hunting, boating, cooking, gardening, and traveling were among his hobbies. He was a voracious reader in all disciplines and never ceased to expand his knowledge to improve understanding in his field and other interests. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his children Aaqil, Aazam, and Hiba, brothers Sam (Delores) Khan, Vajahat (Azra) Khan, Shujaat (Shaukat) Khan, sisters Farzana Khan, Sameena (Khaja) Khan, Rukhsana (Inayat) Khan, Irfana (Hamid) Khan-Salam, several nieces and nephews, grand-nephews and grand-nieces. Among several significant life achievements, Dr. Khan cherished his time in Kosovo when he left in 1999 to help tend to war-ravaged refugees taking with him medical supplies to help set up functional clinics in refugee camps. In January, 2006, he spent his vacation volunteering in the

worst affected parish of New Orleans helping victims of Hurricane Katrina. He always went out his way to answer health-related questions and made himself available for those in need. Visitation was Saturday May 5, 2012 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM at the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon. Prayers were at 11:30 AM on Sunday May 6, 2012 at the Sauk Valley Islamic Center in Dixon with burial following at Parkholm Cemetery in La Grange Park, IL. A memorial fund has been established. All proceeds go to the Volunteer Care Center, affiliated with KSB Hospital. Dr. Khan was instrumental in the establishment and operation of the center which helps impoverished patients receive free medical attention and help with medication.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rifaqat Khan*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Rifaqat Khan*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *I'm so saddened and shocked to have the greatest Family Physician I ever had, taken away from me. Thanks for all the great memories and hard work you did as a doctor. And as a friend. He loved to help people and loved everyone in his heart. I will miss you for a long time to come Dr. Khan. I will never forget you.*

Sina Etemadi - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss.*

Kathy McMunn - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *A great doctor and moreover a great person.*

Doug Hoyle - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ We are so sorry for your personal loss and it is also a great loss for the Dixon community. Dr. Khan was truly a caring, compassionate and extremely capable and gifted physician.  
He will truly be missed.  
Our thoughts and prayers go with you.

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**Randy and Connie Walcott** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *What Makes Sunshine?*

*Sunshine  
filled with love and tears  
happiness and sorrow  
makes the sunny sky  
you ask me why tears  
why sorrow  
with the fading of today  
into tomorrow?  
tears come  
when sunshine makes sorrow  
so what is the sunshine you ask?  
its tears of happiness  
and sorrow of love  
its healing pains  
sent from above  
your heart in two  
not for heartbreak  
but for tomorrow to come soon  
and the sun to be shining  
not the moon  
katie norton*

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**Mr & Mrs. Masood Ahmad** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HK

“ A dear friend and a wonderful human being.  
RIP.

Hayssam Kadah - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ Sorry for your loss. Served with him on DPS committee for several years. Taught his children. Nice man, wonderful children.

Frank Cahill - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ There are no words to express how very saddened and sorry we are for Dr. Khan's loss. We pray that you find comfort and peace in the coming days and weeks.. he will be greatly missed.

Joe & Terry Lucas - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Dr.Khan was a wonderful Doctor. He will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends...

Kevin @ Pauline Rosenbalm - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Sorry for your lost he was a great doctor he was mine for 12 years. He will be miss very dearly.

Jessica Schrock - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Dr. Khan was such a wonderful physician, father and a great man. Working with him was such a pleasure. He will be truly missed.

Heather Bresson - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HJ

“ My deepest apologies and prayers to your family at this devastating time. To lose such a wonderful man, friend, father, physician, and a co-worker so young. All of us here will deeply miss him.

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**Hilary Johnson** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Dr. Khan was a great doctor who had such enthusiasm for his job. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge and educating not just his patients but his co-workers on the many topics concerning our health. He will be greatly missed in his practice and the community but mostly in the hearts of his family. My deepest sympathies in your loss. May your memories of happier times sustain you.

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**Mary Sanders** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ I was in Scottsdale, Az when my Daughter called me with the tragic news. We had many great times together. He was always such a positive, intelligent person to be around. He loved to entertain and was the best cook!  
More importantly he loved everyone, especially his family, and was so very proud of all of them.  
My heart goes out to everyone who knew him. He touched so many lives in such an uplifting way.  
Such a Great Man. He will be tremendously missed.

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**GREG A PETERSON** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *This message is specifically for the children. I am so very sorry for your loss. I want you to know that , if there is ANY thing you need, someone to talk to, or just to sit with you, you can give me a call. You are very special children and I will always appreciate the time I was able to spend with you, teaching you how to play the guitar, and the violin. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Marcia Coan** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *My sincere sympathy to the Khan family. Dr. Khan was my physician since he came to Dixon and started a practice here in the 90's. I trusted him and never doubted any advice he offered me or any medical diagnosis' he gave. He will be extremely missed by this community and especially by me. I will always cherish the doctor/patient relationship I shared with him. May the memories of your lives with him help you through your terrible loss and through the years to come.*

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**Amy Wilcox** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ To Rif's family.... I'm Jeff from Ohio. I was on a couple cruises with Rif and he was my roommate on my last cruise..... we nicknamed him the "Rifmeister". We shared alot together about things going on in our lives...both good and bad. We laughed sooo much and had a great time relaxing, talking, and joking around. It was such a REAL time.... sharing stories of work, family and life. He was such a genuine guy. I have 4 girls and appreciated and respected Rif because he LOVED his family so much as well. He was always polite, professional and proper and everyone loved him. He was such a FUN and comfortable guy to be around. I have numerous stories and pix of Rif I'll never forget. It's just like Rif to be so responsible and conscientious to worry about a boat and possible problems and his son more than himself. That's the type of man he was. I bawled my eyes out when I heard the news. My prayers are with you Khan family. God bless. Rif's travel buddy & roommate.....Jeffer RIP in Rifmeister.....I love ya buddy

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**Jeff Kerchner** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ I met Rif a few years ago on a cruise when he tended my broken toe. We became fast friends and saw each other on several other cruises. Rif was a warm, generous and caring man who enjoyed life as well as helping others. He was loved by so many in our "cruise community". It is a tragedy that we lost this special man and my heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to his family.

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**Eileen DePesa** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I just wanted to tell you how sorry I am. He was an awesome doctor & I will miss his smile in the unit. My sincere sympathy, Tammy

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**Tammy Strub** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ I am in tears..... he was one of my best friends. Always kept in touch even after leaving medical school.

*i met him when he visited India last.*

*he spent 3 days with me in Hyderabad.*

*I promised to visit him during this Sept/oct 2012.*

*We spent a lot of time with each other in medical school....*

*All my friends in hyderabad, baangalore, kerala, middle east join me in expressing our condolences and may Almighty give them enough strength to overcome this untimely tragedy.*

*Its going to take a long time for me to accept this !!*

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**Dr Shashidhar Reddy** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I met Rif on a cruise in March 2009. We cruised several times together through the yrs and kept in contact. I am just heartbroken. What a sweet, caring man and a great friend. He will be so missed by everyone in our "cruising family". My heart goes out to his children and other family members. May you find the strength to get through the coming days until we all see Rif again. Much Love, Deanna

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**Deanna Stidham** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ My deepest sympathy to each of you. I have been a patient of Dr. Khan's for almost 18 years. He has seen me through some difficult medical conditions. I came to rely on him and to love him as my doctor. With the grief I feel at the loss of him, I can't begin to know what you are feeling. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Shirley Foster** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Always very professional, but with a twinkle in his eye. An excellent Dr. I would have liked to have known him better.

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**Chuck Ballard** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ To the Khan family/children

*I am so deeply saddened by the loss of your father. Hopefully the care and concern of family and friends will help ease the pain and give you comfort. I had the pleasure to get to know you children while at DHS. My heart goes out to all of you.*

*With deepest sympathy,  
Judy Oberg*

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**Judy Oberg** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ Dr.Khan, you were one of the best physicians I have ever encountered, no one matched your care. As a Type 1 diabetic, I can assure you, you took better care of me than any endocrinologist I've been a patient of. I am truly saddened at this loss. You were a wonderful man and doctor with an amazing family; I also had the pleasure of being a student of your wife's at Sauk many years ago as well. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart for touching my life the way you did.

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**Heather Guy(Novak)** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ Dr. Khan has been my doctor as well as my parents for many years. Our hearts are very saddened by his loss. He was a brilliant and wonderful man. He will be greatly missed. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Tuesday Jones** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Shocked to hear the demise of our dear friend Rifaqat Khan may god rest his soul in peace.

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**Dr.R.G.Chandrika & Mrs.Sandhya** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ so sorry for your loss.

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**debra merritt** - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM