

McCready Foundation

www.McCreadyFoundation.org



**GARY L. SMITH
SR., RRT**

Building a Healthy Community One Person at a Time

Injured while serving in the U.S. Army and later working as a tree surgeon catapulted Gary Smith into a job that he truly loves - helping seriously ill patients at McCready Memorial Hospital overcome breathing difficulties.

As the hospital's chief respiratory therapist, Gary tests, treats and teaches people with Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (COPD) and other conditions that affect the airways.

In an emergency, he's the first summoned because he's specially trained to insert a breathing tube into a patient whose lungs have stopped working.

Gary and his staff of five stay busy. "Eastern Shore people," he says, "are prone to COPD - primarily because of smoking, but also from other causes - chicken house dust, allergies

and even weather patterns and atmospheric changes."

Helping people extends beyond Gary's job. He and his wife, Kimberly, volunteer at a church that provides meals to the homeless. That experience inspired the couple to organize a program at their own Christian Community Church in Delmar, distributing clothes, sundries and medical supplies. They want to start a roadside clinic - and eventually a shelter - for the homeless, many of whom, like Gary, are disabled veterans.

Gary is an outdoorsman who enjoys playing softball, hunting with a bow and fishing. Crabs, fish and venison are menu staples. Several times a week, he'll fire up his backyard grill to cook meats marinated in a semi-secretive recipe of spices, Worcestershire sauce and white ("not red") wine.



Learn more about Gary at
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McCREADY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

McCready Outpatient Center Physicians

The Alice B. Tawes Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

201 Hall Highway • Crisfield, MD 21817 • 410-968-1200

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