

Gary being my sage has been an amazing experience. Not only is he an amazing person. He has taught me so many things that I know I will hold dear to my heart and use later in life. Gary has persevered through many challenges and always comes out on top. He has had an amazing life and always gives back when he can. He is the perfect example of a role model, and this has been my experience with Gary.

One thing Gary has taught me is to persevere no matter how hard it gets. Gary was a rockstar who worked with famous people like the Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd and even Elton John. With the rise of drug experimentation Gary fell into an addiction, but he never let this beat him. Gary also had leukemia and had a 50% chance of dying. Instead of wallowing in this he gathered all his courage and beat it. So now whenever I feel like giving up I say what would Gary do.

Gary has also taught me that God cares about what we do not what we say. If we take this rule into account Gary is definitely on God's good side. Gary has chosen to leave his mark on this world by giving back. He volunteers at shelters in downtown during holidays. He mentored and took on a father figure for underserved children. He went on a missionary trip with Muhammad Ali to Africa. He has done so much to help this world and I want to do the same and follow in his footsteps.

Something's I find interesting about Gary, besides the fact that he's a rock star, he's done so many amazing things in his life. His first wife Chelsea Brown was the only black star in a hit show called Laugh In. He's wrote many books and produced many movies. I also found out that he can officiate weddings and is going to officiate his daughter's wedding later this year. I think to myself how can a person do so many amazing things in their life? In my eyes Gary is a star and he will always be.

Talking to Gary every Thursday is what I looked forward to most in these past weeks. Whether it was talking about his life or telling him the things going on in mine, I truly felt that me and Gary were attentive to every word the other said. He taught me to make eye contact when talking to

others. He told me to not apologize so much. He told me that I will be something great in life and I'm just so appreciative that God has blessed me with such an amazing sage.

One thing that I will never forget is when I told Gary how my dad had trouble finding a job because his prison record. Gary immediately asked if he could write a recommendation on how well he has raised me, to make the employers see my father in a better light. I've never seen someone care so much about a person they have never met and I believe if everyone acted like Gary the world would be a little better. Gary also gave my dad a book he wrote called "Second Chances". My dad loved that someone he didn't know had cared about him and when he was going through a dark place that gave him a little light.

I believe I connected with Gary because we are both compassionate and care about seeing a change in the world. Talking to him was one of the best experiences I think I will ever have.

Knowing that even though life will have setbacks, that I can rise above it will always stick with me and so Gary, I thank you for that.

Now that I told you all about Gary, I'm gonna personally thank you Gary. Thank you for making me a better person. Thank you for taking time out of your thursday's to come talk to me. Thank you for caring so much about me and my dad. Thank you for giving back to this world. Thank you for overcoming your struggles and becoming the person I know today.

It's important that we all go in the world and act like Gary. Be beautiful and give all that you can. Care about someone you don't know. Always listen when someone's talking. Try to pass on any wisdom you have . And more importantly, be a rock star!!! Responsibly of course. Once again thank you Gary.