



Raymond Archibald is #GeisingerGrateful

There is a history of pancreatic cancer in Raymond Archibald's family. Yet when Raymond, of Scranton, Pa., went to his primary care physician for a checkup in 2010, he was still surprised by the doctor's words: "You have cancer and you need surgery." However, his physician recommended Raymond wait until Kyo Chu, MD, arrived at the Henry Cancer Center at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center from Baltimore — Dr. Chu, he was assured, was the best surgeon for the job.

In the meantime, Raymond needed five to six weeks of chemotherapy. "I've had friends die from this kind of cancer. But I trusted Geisinger to do right by me," Raymond says. "So, we waited for Dr. Chu."

This turned out to be a good decision. Dr. Chu performed the surgery on Raymond, removing part of his pancreas and stomach, and his gallbladder. Soon afterward, Raymond was pronounced cancer-free! This result seems even more remarkable, given that Raymond shared his

story a full eight years after his diagnosis. According to the American Cancer Society, the 1-year relative survival rate for his type of cancer is 20 percent, and the 5-year rate is only 7 percent.

Raymond has beaten the odds!

But Raymond's care needs weren't over. "Would you believe it? One year later, I got a hernia!" he says. "I was lifting something in my backyard and there you go!"

While he didn't need surgery for his hernia, Raymond continued his journey with Geisinger. "Then one year after that, Michael Fox, MD, sent me down to Danville to Geisinger Medical Center for a heart valve replacement. It's been a lot, but I'm still here!"

Raymond wanted to thank Dr. Chu with gifts to Geisinger in his honor.

"He gave me eight more years! I'm older and a little slow-moving some days, but I feel good. Dr. Chu and everybody at Geisinger did a real terrific job then, and they are still taking care of me!"



Kyo Chu, MD, Surgical Oncology, Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center