



Granahan Investment Management Mourns Passing of Gary Hatton, Co-Founder

Gary Hatton, CFA, co-founder and senior managing director of Granahan Investment Management, died suddenly on Sunday, Nov. 28. He will be profoundly missed.

Jack Granahan and Jane White founded Granahan Investment Management (GIM) in 1985, followed shortly by Gary, who joined as a healthcare analyst. He started managing the healthcare portion of the firm's portfolios in 1996. Gary began investing in the then nascent biotech sector in the early 1980s and was a talented small cap investor with a special expertise in the biotech and life sciences industries. Over his career, Gary developed a reputation in the biotech world as a curious, knowledgeable, and intuitive investor.

Gary was passionate about the excitement and innovation surrounding small cap biotechs – emerging companies with potential to change the world of healthcare. And clients benefited from his ability to discover these companies. As an early investor in CRISPR Therapeutics, Gary believed that biotech would be divided into “before CRISPR and after CRISPR” given the technology's powerful potential. Earlier this year, he said: “What has been uncovered in biotech and med-tech so far is breathtaking. We are entering a Renaissance period for biotechnology, a rebirth that includes personalized medicine and the use of CRISPR technologies.” He was excited about what would come in the next 10 years for the biotech field.

Gary was also an avid runner, having completed 11 Boston marathons. For training, he'd regularly run the 10 miles from his Boston Beacon Hill home to the firm's office in Waltham, Mass. He also was a passionate Boston Bruins hockey fan, and rarely missed a game. Gary will be remembered for his wit, investment expertise, dedication to his work and colleagues, and devotion to his wife Jill, their four children and three grandchildren.

“It is with great sadness that we are announcing this news,” said Jane White, CEO of GIM. “I have worked alongside Gary since the founding of our firm. His investing acumen and true genius will resonate for years to come at GIM and among our clients. Gary has left a profound legacy and we are heartbroken by his death.”

In April 2021, in preparation for Gary's planned retirement in the coming years, GIM appointed industry veteran Richard Watson, CFA, to become Gary's successor. Rich is a talented portfolio manager with deep experience in biotech and life sciences. He, along with GIM portfolio manager Jeff Harrison, who has worked closely with Gary over the last three years, have assumed Gary's portfolio management duties.