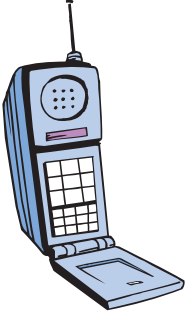




# THE WORD FROM GARY

My Partner Mike and I started out the year excited about his schooling coming to an end and beginning a new chapter in our lives. Right as Mike was finishing school and preparing to take his State Boards to become certified as a Respiration Therapist, **he showed his true overachiever status by getting pneumonia.** After having perfect attendance he missed the final 18 days of class and sounded like Billy Bob Thornton from 'Slingblade' for weeks. I constantly tried new ways to get him to say "reckon" or "uh-huh." **After all, if you can't torture your spouse, who can you torture?** Little did I know that payback was going to be so thorough.

Fortunately, Mike landed a position in his new field quickly. The first couple of months were fantastic with a regular shift as Mike went through training. Then, our world got turned upside down. Suddenly, Mike's schedule **changed to on-call status from 5pm-8am Monday through Friday and 24 hours a day on Saturday and Sunday.** Not getting regular sleep and having no schedule on the other hand was a recipe for disaster. Mike likes routine and the only normal aspect of his life became chaos.



Overnight, our life was now centered on "The Brick," a company issued cell phone that looks like something from a 1980's movie. After over fourteen years together it's tough to get replaced by an ugly piece of plastic! We dreaded it going off which seemed to happen consistently at about 3am in the morning. It's bad when your dreams start **centering on different ways you can kill a phone and make it look like an accident!**

The surprising part is that **Mike discovered just what a rewarding career path he chose.** I never fully understood that he would be dealing with life support systems on a day-to-day basis. When a machine that helps you breathe isn't working in the middle of the night, it gets very stressful for patients and their loved ones. **Mike's calm demeanor and reassuring personality turned out to be the perfect fit.**

At the same time, we discovered that driving 400+ miles a week was a very bad idea in an SUV getting 16mpg. When our gas bill hit over \$500/month we decided it was time to become honorary Lesbians. While we couldn't quite convince ourselves to buy a Subaru, we now have a shiny new VW Jetta Diesel in our driveway. We can't stop bragging about getting over 43mpg! Over the years I have helped a lot of **Diesel Dykes** become homeowners and now I have a **Diesel Mike** at home. He still doesn't think that joke is as funny as I do!

Mike's perseverance paid off. On November 15th he moved to a full-time regular schedule and now 2012 looks sunny and bright. I can't wait for him to get caught up on his sleep and to begin enjoying life again. **Sometimes you don't realize how proud you are of things until you look at them in hindsight. We made it through!** I can't wait to share a toast on New Year's Eve and welcome 2012.

I hope that you had a wonderful 2011 and that your holidays are filled with lots of love and laughter,

Gary Boyer

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# ON THE MOVE

Just over nine years ago I joined an amazing group of people in the mortgage business. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made.

Together we have seen tremendous highs and lows in our industry. While we have seen many offices crumble and implode, **our core values of operating**

**honestly and ethically have made us stronger.** The name on our door has changed a few times, but the core group of people inside has not.

To celebrate my ninth anniversary, we signed a lease for a gracious old Tudor brick home that is our new office. We are now on the corner of NW 19th & Kearney in the heart of the NW Alphabet District. This location provides convenient access from the I-405 Everett Street exit. You will immediately feel the warmth and splendor of this grand home built in 1890. For a house lover like me, the crown moldings, grand staircase and original stained glass windows made it clear that this would be the perfect place to continue to grow my business for the next decade.

I know the first thought that will pop into your mind is going to be **how could I leave the view?** Having a corner office on the 26th floor of the US Bancorp Tower was a treat every single day. Over the years I saw a good chunk of the Pearl District get built, watched the fleet come in for Rose Festival every year and always enjoyed taking in the look on my client's faces as they surveyed the city landmarks to find their home. The good news is that I can always drop in for a visit to Portland City Grill when I need a "View Fix."

There are a few things I most definitely **will not miss about the Tower.** Parking in a 13 story parking garage every day can be a nightmare. I'm kind of a night owl, and I cannot tell you how many late nights I have left the office only to reach the garage and have no idea what floor I parked on. I did the 'walk of shame' more times than I care to admit waiting for the panic button to set-off my car so I could find it! The parking situation was often a nightmare for visitors as well.

One of the most exciting aspects of our new locations is your ability to pull right up to the front door when visiting. We have plenty of easy on-site parking which was a huge selling point for me. For my very special Lesbian clients, this means **you will never again have to worry if your truck is too tall!**



Please stop in for a visit sometime!  
829 NW 19th Avenue - corner of 19th  
& Kearney. PS - For more pics visit  
[www.facebook.com/mortgagemonkey](http://www.facebook.com/mortgagemonkey)

Moving is always an end and a beginning. I cannot help but smile as I think of the fun times ahead when you come and visit my new office. **With my deepest gratitude I thank you for helping me do the job I love.** I'm very fortunate to have so many wonderful people in my life and I look forward to many more years of working together.

**Your support has made it all possible.**



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