We asked Dr. Gary Kraus, “in your professional career, what are you most proud of?” He said, “making a real difference in people’s lives … changing people’s lives … saving people’s lives. Patients trust me with the most valuable possession they have, their health; and although I can’t promise everyone a cure, I can promise them that I will take care of them to the very best of my ability, utilizing the most advanced procedures and technology available. The care I give to my patients is the same care I would give someone in my own family. Nothing in the world can compare to the feeling I get when I am able to help a patient get rid of their pain, or cure their tumor.”

Dr. Kraus is Medical Director of Neurosciences and Associate Director of the Gamma Knife Center at West Houston Medical Center. He performs surgery at West Houston and at Memorial Hermann Memorial City Hospitals. Dr. Kraus is listed in “Best Doctors in America” and “The Global Directory of Who’s Who.” He is board certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery.

Dr. Kraus has practiced Neurosurgery for 14 years, after seven years of training. Despite his vast operative surgical experience, he prefers to help patients through a more conservative approach if possible, but is prepared to offer patients surgery, when needed. Many of his patients are able to achieve pain relief without spine surgery because of the non-invasive computer-guided traction and strengthening techniques he utilizes to treat the spine. Open brain surgery is often avoided because of the Gamma Knife, which Dr. Kraus has performed since 1999.

“I treat patients the way I would want to be treated,” he says. “By offering patients the full spectrum of treatment methods, they can make the best decision for their individual needs.”

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Dr. Kraus is a periodic guest on the “Houston Texans Fitness Show” with Roberta and Riley in the morning, Radio 610, discussing back pain issues. He has several patents pending, dedicated to minimally invasive and motion preservation techniques for the spine. He is conducting a study to evaluate computer-guided traction.

Dr. Kraus has written a textbook “Microsurgical Anatomy of the Brain: A Stereo Atlas,” which has received international acclaim (published by Williams and Wilkins). He has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed neurosurgery journals and chapters in textbooks. He co-founded www.cyberacuity.com, a company that creates educational CDs, DVDs, websites and animations for the medical profession. Dr. Kraus also created www.lowback-pain.com, a comprehensive website covering back issues.

“I would like to thank my patients, office and hospital team, and my medical colleagues for their excellence,” he says. “Without this great support network, our patients would not receive the excellent care they require and deserve.”

**Specialty:** Neurosurgery

**Education:** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, B.S. in physics and electrical engineering; State University of New York/Stony Brook, M.D.; St. Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo., Residency in Neurosurgery; Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, Ariz., Fellowship in Neurovascular, Skull Base Surgery

Dr. Kraus has expertise in the following areas:

**Spine:** Surgical and non-surgical treatment of back pain, neck pain, herniated discs, stenosis, fusions, kyphoplasty for osteoporotic compression fractures, minimally invasive surgery, tumors, artificial disc

**Brain:** Open brain surgery using computer-guided navigation; minimally invasive brain surgery using Gamma Knife; brain tumors, normal pressure hydrocephalus, aneurysms, trigeminal neuralgia

**Carotid Artery surgery for blockage**

**Carpal tunnel and Ulnar nerve surgery**