## \What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home?

The fellowship and tight-knit community at Nora's Home is my favorite part! The relationships I've established because of my "home away from home" are super valuable to me. I also really enjoy Pat Cernoch's meals and the Chef of the Day volunteer effort.

## What advice would you have for a new patient coming to Nora's Home?

The first thing I would do is offer them a helping hand. I would let them know that I am always there to help, chat, and even potentially give someone a ride! Nora's Home is such a special place and one of their biggest gifts is the sense of community that the staff fosters, so participating in family nights or even dining with everyone during regular meals is super essential.



Transplant: LVAD Recipient Hospital: Memorial Hermann Hometown: Vernon, TX

**Transplant Journey:** In 2003, I became ill and eventually was told by a couple of doctors that I had "6 months to live". Nevertheless, I remained positive about my health and put my faith in God. After traveling to both Galveston and Dallas to seek medical help – I ended up in Houston, where my Memorial Hermann doctor issued me an LVAD. After this life-changing surgery, the difference in how I felt was night and day! I quickly started to feel more like myself and was deemed as "the walking man" by those who knew me. Through this entire journey, my mother has been my rock: never leaving my side of wavering in her support and love for me. Over the past couple of years, I've not only come to enjoy offering helpful insight to people waiting to get an LVAD but I have also learned so much from other guests and have undoubtedly forged so many new friendships along the way!

