

Living Donor Spotlight

Donated: Right Kidney Hospital: Houston Methodist Hometown: Colorado Springs, CO

Transplant Journey: My brother Tim was in need of a kidney transplant to treat his kidney cancer. Back in 2001, my sister Louise had given him stem cells for his kidney and this time she was planning to donate one of her kidneys to him. It would have been the perfect match, but the doctors had found a rare case of blood cancer during Louise's testing process. Out of all 7 of our siblings, I knew I was the only other one with the same blood type as Tim besides Louise, so I decided to go through the surgery to donate my right kidney to him.

How has your recovery been? Right after surgery, the doctors had a hard time helping me with my pain but for the most part, the recovery has been steady. Sometimes I get tired easily and going back home to high altitude made me realize I need more oxygen, but thankfully I no longer have any pain.

What has been your favorite space at Nora's Home? The outdoor Garden and patio areas were great. Walking alone was so peaceful in the garden. I would keep track of my steps and do five laps around when I was out there. I also enjoyed just sitting on the bench and taking in the outdoors.

What would you say to someone who is considering becoming an organ donor? It's the best thing I've done, but the hardest thing as well. Do it if you can.

What would you say to the donors who monetarily support Nora's Home? Thank you so much for giving us a safe, quiet place to recover close to the hospital.

What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home? I am thankful for a peaceful place to come home to and meet other people. Having that quiet space to heal and reflect helped get me through recovery.

