

Guest Spotlight

Age: 74

Transplant: Right Lung

Hospital: Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center

Hometown: Mandeville, LA

Jim



Jim and his wife Bonnie

Transplant Journey:

My wife and I used to ride bicycles all the time on the trail near our house. Distances around 15-20 miles was optimal for us until I noticed over time I was starting to get more and more out of breath. Finally I decided to visit the pulmonologist. The first pulmonologist said that I was just getting old and had nothing to worry about, but I kept getting more and more out of breath. Eventually I sought out a second opinion from a Pulmonologist in Tulane and found out I had developed pulmonary fibrosis.

I was put on some medication that helped at first for years, but then my condition worsened and my health was rapidly declining. The pulmonologist suggested that I get a right lung transplant, so we decided to travel to Houston for a few days for testing and a screening. The doctors there agreed I was a candidate for a lung transplant. At this point, my condition had declined so far that I was put on 15 liters of oxygen just so I could walk while I awaited a transplant. I got a call a few weeks later saying there was a lung available for me and I received my new gift of life on November 2, 2021.

What would you want your donor to know? Thank you so much! You saved my life, and I could not have asked for more.

What has been your favorite space at Nora's Home? The outdoor patio was very nice and shaded, and the grounds made our stay so peaceful. My wife also loved the sitting rooms and being able to meet new people daily who were staying at the home.

What would you say to someone who is considering becoming an organ donor? Do your research and ask questions. Know what you are getting into. It's so worth it!

What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home? My wife and I loved the people we met there. In fact, we are still in contact with many of them. Going through similar situations and receiving advice from each other was the best part of staying at the home.

