



# Caregiver Spotlight

*Sandra*

**Relationship to Patient:** Mother

**Patient Name & Age:** Dong, 58

**Transplant:** Double Lung

**Hospital:** Baylor St. Luke's Hospital

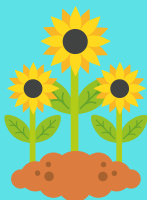
**Hometown:** San Francisco, CA

**Transplant Journey:** My son, Dong, became a very well-established artist as a teenager but the environment influenced him to start smoking. His lungs became extremely weak and he needed a new set of lungs. It was Easter Sunday 2022 when I received a call from Dong saying he was going into surgery at 4:30 pm that day. Shortly after, I learned from a social worker about Nora's Home and I flew from San Francisco for his surgery. Dong remained in the surgery longer than expected so both my granddaughter and I prayed for six and a half hours for Dong to recover. Ten minutes before midnight, we got a call from the hospital saying Dong was okay and had made it through surgery. After some subsequent complications, he was finally discharged to Nora's Home June 9th.

**What advice would you share with a new caregiver regarding the transplant journey?** Watch very closely and do it with a heart. Have patience and take every action in detail. Unconditional love and serving the patient with full attention is the most important thing during this time.

**What would you say to the organ donor?** My family and I are all so happy and grateful. My family and I couldn't be more thankful for this opportunity!

**What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home?** I enjoyed doing Tai Chi and yoga in the Sunroom and loved to invite guests in the home to join me at 7:30 every morning. This has helped so many! I also like the kitchen as it's so organized and we can cook our own meals.



**What advice would you have for a new guest coming to Nora's Home?** Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and talk to other guests about their experience. Everyone here is family no matter the background. This place opens your heart, and sharing love and ideas is important.



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