



Guest Spotlight

Andrea

Age: 60
Transplant: Kidney
Hospital: Memorial Hermanns
Hometown: Oppelo, AR

Transplant Journey: It started some years back and I've been on oxygen for about 10 years. The older I got, the more the disease progressed. In 2016, I developed pneumonia and in 2021, I was in the hospital diagnosed with shingles, COVID, and pneumonia all at once. This got the best of me and in 2021, I was hospitalized 10 times, and I would stay sometimes for two weeks to a month especially with my COPD. My oxygen would drop to the 60s, and I would be admitted to the hospital, and they would keep me there.

Every time I took a breath, it would be like someone was stabbing me in the chest. I asked my husband to take me to the hospital and they found a blood clot in my left lung; it was from my left knee that had traveled to my lung. In November, the doctors told me there was nothing they could do, and they wanted to send me to hospice. I told them that if something's going to happen, let me go home and be with my family!

I had a lung appointment in November 2021 and asked the doctor if I could be a candidate for a lung transplant. That December I came to Houston and the hospital did a lot of tests and told me that I was a candidate for lung transplant! In March 2022, they told me that I would have to relocate to Houston so that I could be listed, and I found Nora's Home.

Throughout my journey, I've put everything in God's hands. He gave me another chance to at move forward and I received my second chance on March 7th. I've met a lot of inspiring people on my journey, and we share our different stories. It's been a pleasure because I know it is Him that brought me here.

What was the first thing you did after receiving your transplant?

When I got back home, the first thing I did was take some long walks. I was not used to the feeling of walking with no oxygen, furthermore the feeling of going from needing 15 liters of oxygen to 0 liters of oxygen. And that feeling was such a great feeling. When I got home I walked about 3000 steps.

What would you say to the donors who donate financially to the home to keep it running and allowing us to provide financial assistance to guests?

Thank you. Without the donors, we would not be here. Nora and her family started this amazing facility for families like mine to have one less thing to worry about when having a transplant. Along with the donors, the staff, their commitment and deication to the continuation of Nora's Home helps families after me feel that same level of comfort and peace staying here. My family and I ill forver be grateful for the generosity of all those involved.

