

# Guest Spotlight

Visa

Age: 64

Transplant: Liver and Kidney

Hospital: Houston Methodist Hospital

Hometown: Gadsden, AL

## Transplant Journey:

My journey began three years ago when I was diagnosed with multiple myeloma. I had a stem cell transplant, and the multiple myeloma went into dormancy. However, the chemotherapy they had given me traveled to my kidney and liver. My kidney and liver were affected and began to decline. We started in Dallas—my husband was working there at the time, and we had been there for six months. My kidneys and liver were not working well, and fluid began to accumulate in my abdomen. We were prepping and planning for transplants at UT Southwest in Dallas. We had a great team of doctors, however, when they realized I was going to need both transplants, the transplant team decided they were not comfortable performing the surgeries. So we began the process of reaching out to other hospitals. Houston Methodist took us in.

I arrived to Houston Methodist on September 28, 2023. About three weeks later, I received my liver transplant on October 22, and my kidney the very next day. It has been a long journey, but God has provided the greatest care I received in the hospital. I arrived at Nora's Home on November 30, and it has been a tremendous blessing to me, my family, and my friends.

## What is the first thing you want to do when you go home?

One of my biggest goals once I am released, is to go home to my husband and daughter who are currently in Huntsville, AL where our new house is being built. My husband is planning to retire in 2024, and we are going to live near my sister. Whenever we need to come back for labs and appointments, I look forward to coming back to Nora's Home.

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

My favorite time at Nora's Home was during the holidays. So many people from the community visited here to make our holiday season better. They provided so much—food, games, cupcakes—and my husband and daughter were also here. We got to have the same Christmas we always do, playing games and spending time together. It was so much fun.

## What would you say to the donors who donate financially to the home?

Thank you so much. What a blessing. Their resources are being used beautifully. They keep everything up to date and provide amazing facilities.

