

Guest Spotlight



Michael

Age: 54
Transplant: Heart and Kidney
Hospital: Houston Methodist
Hometown: Columbus, OH

Transplant Journey:

My transplant journey started in 2019 when I was diagnosed with AL amyloidosis. After six months of aggressive chemotherapy, I also had a stem cell transplant. Unfortunately, the chemotherapy negatively affected my kidney function so my medical team recommended a kidney transplant. While waiting for a new kidney, I began having complications with my heart. Within two months, my cardiologist said I needed a heart transplant in addition to a kidney transplant.

My original facility denied me both surgeries and referred me to another hospital in Ohio where I was denied there as well. I was referred to two more Ohio facilities. After the last turndown, I went on Facebook and found someone from Houston, TX, who was having the exact same transplant experience as me. I messaged them, and they suggested to look at Houston Methodist. I met with Dr. Trachtenberg, and he said immediately, "We can help you."

We made it to Houston on July 2, 2023, and I was approved for a heart and kidney transplant. On October 15, I got the call that they found a match. On October 17 the surgery commenced, and I had a new heart and kidney.

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

I want to see my daughter who turns seven soon. I also can't wait to do the basic things like driving, and getting back to my everyday routine again.

What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home?

Nora's Home is the light in your transplant journey and that is because you know you have somewhere to go. I feel welcomed and safe here. In the future, where I need to come back it's reassuring to know that I can call upon my Nora's Home community to be there.

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

Thank you! Because of what donors are doing, they are allowing us a safe shelter with caring staff and a beautiful facility. It's very relieving for our families who visit Nora's Home and immediately know that we are in the perfect place.

