

# Guest Spotlight



Richard

**Age:** 56

**Transplant:** Liver

**Hospital:** Houston Methodist Hospital

**Hometown:** Edgewood, NM

**Caregiver:** His Wife Elizabeth

**Transplant Journey:** What started as an enjoyable meal out went horribly wrong when the burrito Richard ate was contaminated with Hepatitis A. Given Richard's active and healthy lifestyle, his doctor initially projected his recovery to be only a couple of weeks. However, his condition only worsened, and Richard wound up in the emergency room experiencing liver failure not long after. Richard and his wife Elizabeth were flown from New Mexico to Houston where Richard's transplant surgeon met them and two days later Richard received his first liver transplant. Unfortunately, there was a potential issue with the first transplanted liver and the hospital team decided that they should transplant a different liver into Richard rather than risk a second liver failure. After a total of 2 transplants, 5 surgeries, and 36 days in the hospital, Richard was finally released to go home.

**What is the first thing you wanted to do after receiving your transplant?** I was very weak still, so it was nice just to be able to sit up in a chair again.

**What would you want to say to your donor or what would you want them to know?** My wife and I would both say thank you for being a donor. I praise God that you donated your organs, and we grieve with you for your loss. You have made such a difference in our lives.

**What would you say to someone who is considering becoming an organ donor?** Register please! You could save so many by being willing to donate.

**What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home?** We both love the homey atmosphere and the amenities. I like to exercise so the gym is my favorite space here.

**What would you say to the donors who support Nora's Home with financial donations?** Thank you! Please keep giving. I can see the difference the home-like atmosphere makes for those staying here. Financially, you are in some cases, preventing people from going bankrupt.

