

Guest Spotlight

Age: 58 Transplant: Kidney Hospital: Houston Methodist Hometown: Port Arthur. TX

Transplant Journey:

In 2012, I was diagnosed with end-stage renal disease, commonly known as kidney failure. The doctors attributed it to my long-term diabetes. I was scared to start dialysis, fearing it would take over my life. I felt so relieved when my doctors introduced me to peritoneal dialysis, which allowed me to continue traveling with my family while receiving treatment.

I was on peritoneal dialysis for ten years, but during Hurricane Laura, I lost my catheter. My doctors decided they couldn't reinsert it due to scarring from previous treatments, so I transitioned to hemodialysis. It was a difficult adjustment, and I struggled to find comfort in this new routine. However, my faith helped me through. One morning during dialysis, as I voiced my frustrations to the doctor, I felt a moment of clarity. I sensed the Lord saying, "Vickie, you don't have to go to dialysis. You get to go to dialysis." That shifted my perspective completely. From that day on, I began to view dialysis as a blessing and encouraged myself and others to do the same.

On the day of my last dialysis treatment, I was flooded with telemarketing calls. That evening, my husband received a call from the same number I had been ignoring. When we answered, a lady named Isabel from the transplant clinic excitedly informed us that they had a kidney ready for me. My husband, daughter, and I were speechless. They asked if we could come that night, and of course, we rushed over. It has been a true blessing ever since.

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

I want to have my children and grandchildren over for dinner and fix them a big pot of their favorite meal chicken and dumplings. I also hope to return to church soon. We were very active there, but being on dialysis kept me from participating fully. I had to step back from my role on the food pantry board because I couldn't be present. I'm really looking forward to being active in our church community again.

What do you enjoy most about Nora's Home?

Being at Nora's Home has been a blessing, allowing us to connect with so many wonderful people. I will never forget meeting an 11-year-old girl who had just received a kidney transplant. I encouraged her to name her new organ to make it feel like her own. A few days later, I ran into her and asked what she had decided to name her kidney. With a smile, she told me she named it "Success."





