

TONT IS IN NEED OF A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DONATING?

If so, we want to thank you! We know this is a big "ask." We also know you may have questions and possibly concerns. We're sharing this flyer in the hope that we can provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision. *Know that even thinking about being Tony's living kidney donor is a courageous step and we are grateful for you!*

UPDATES

Tony's kidney disease has slowly progressed since 1985 when he had his first heart transplant. Tony started taking immunosuppressant medication that was hard on his kidneys. After 38 years of taking the medication, his kidney function decreased to 11% function. In January 2022, Tony's kidney specialist told him that he would need a kidney transplant. He was then placed on the kidney transplant waiting list. In February 2023, Tony started dialysis because his kidney function dropped to 9%.

WHY A LIVING DONOR?

Waiting 3-5 years for a kidney from a deceased donor is not the best path forward for Tony. With a living donor, Tony can get his kidney transplant sooner! Research has shown that when patients receive a kidney from a living donor, the outcome is generally better. Living kidney donation is also ideal because kidneys from living donors last longer and there is a lower chance Tony's immune system will attack his new kidney (rejection).



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DONATING?

YES! I'M INTERESTED

If you are interested in being Tony's living donor, visit yourgiftworks.com/tonys and complete the short contact form. A donor advocate will reach out to you within one business day to answer any questions you may have and will guide you through the next steps in the process.

YES! BUT I HAVE QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

Having questions is normal! We have a great resource available. Please visit [Tony's Kidney Website](https://yourgiftworks.com/tonys) and complete the contact form. A donor advocate named Laurie will reach out to you. Laurie is a living kidney donor who can answer any non-medical questions you may have, guide you through the process, and connect you to great resources.

NO, BUT I WANT TO HELP

Thank you! The best way you can help is by following [Tony's Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/tonyskidney) and sharing posts from his page as much as possible. The more shares we get, the more people we can reach, and the better chance we will have of finding Tony's courageous donor.

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WAS TONY'S FAMILY TESTED?

Unfortunately, Tony's wife is not a good candidate because she has kidney stones. His son cannot donate at this time due to health. One thing many people do not know is, sometimes, the best living donor match is someone outside of the recipient's family.

DO I NEED INSURANCE TO DONATE?

Yes, the hospital requires that you have insurance to be considered as a living donor in the event an unknown health issue comes up for the donor.

WHAT ABOUT MY EXPENSES?

While Tony's insurance covers all costs related to the donation (for Tony and the donor), there are expenses like travel, meals, and lost wages that you may be reimbursed for. There are resources available to ensure you are not paying for anything out of pocket. We can provide more information on those resources, if interested.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO DONATE?

The following are pre-qualification requirements for living donation: must be between the age of 18-69 years old, must be healthy and free of major health problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity (BMI of 37 or less), and must be mentally and emotionally healthy.

HOW LONG IS THE RECOVERY PROCESS?

Living kidney donors are often able to return to work within 2 weeks, and fully heal within 6-8 weeks. After surgery, the donor's remaining kidney will also grow in size and function, allowing them to live normal life with just one kidney.

I HAVE NON-MEDICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT BECOMING A DONOR?

Visit Tony's kidney website and complete the contact form. Within 1 business day, a donor advocate named Laurie will reach out to you. This is an excellent opportunity to speak with someone who has already donated a kidney and can not only answer your non-medical questions, but share more about their experience as a donor. If you have medical questions, we can connect you to the appropriate team member at the University of Utah Health.

WHAT HAPPENS IF TONY DOES NOT FIND A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR?

The ideal outcome is for Tony to find a living donor. He has already battled so much with his kidney disease and heart failure that being on the kidney transplant waiting list for 3-5 years is simply not ideal. Long-term dialysis is also not ideal as it can lead to a variety of complications such as low blood pressure, injection site infection, and blood clots.



WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP?

1. Share Tony's story with those you know. Send them the [link to his website](#) or share this brochure.
2. Follow [Tony's Kidney Page on Facebook](#). This page will educate interested donors and allow us to reach more people. You can help by sharing Tony's Facebook page with your family and friends. Doing so will make a huge difference.
3. "Like" and "Share" the posts on [Tony's Facebook page](#). The more the posts are shared, the more people we will reach, and the better chance we will have of finding Tony's living kidney donor.

Please know that we are so grateful for your support. We appreciate your help, prayers, and kind words as Tony continues his transplant journey.