

GOD SENT A LIVING DONOR

“For some reason, I have such a hard time asking for help, but I need lots of help from my prayer warrior friends out there! As some of you know, I am in great need of a third kidney transplant! Please pray that we will find that perfect match soon and that somehow my faith will stay strong! Thank you and God bless you all.”

Kyla Reid posted this on Facebook May 1st. Two days later, a long-time friend answered her prayer for help.

After raising their daughters together through their junior high years, Reid and Shelly Nutt had lost touch until the post.

Nutt saw the post on her newsfeed May 3rd and immediately knew she needed to contact Reid.

Nine years ago, Nutt witnessed Reid’s first transplant and took care of Reid’s children. After Reid’s brother and cousin’s kidney transplants failed, Nutt said she would start the blood tests.

Nutt, executive director for the Texas Peanut Producers Board, said God and her faith encouraged her to contact Reid about being the possible donor.

“Never in a million years would I think we would be a match,” Nutt said. “We are not just a match, we are a perfect match.”

Reid has a rare blood disease called A-typical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome. She was 37 when first

diagnosed and doctors could not find a cause until a year ago in February.

“Not a lot of people with kidney failure even get a chance for one transplant,” Reid said. “The fact that I have now had a third transplant, I truly feel blessed!”

After intense genetic testing at a lab at the University of Iowa, Reid said they discovered a cause for this rare disease. a gene mutation found in her liver.

Reid said there are no words to describe the feelings her family and she have experienced through this journey. She said getting this third chance is almost unheard of.

“It is not that I got a third chance, but my family got a third chance,” Reid said.

Reid said Nutt was the 16th person that offered to be tested. She reached out to Facebook friends for prayers to get her through a tough time. Reid said Nutt contacted her immediately and started the tests two days later.

“I just knew she was going to be the one,” Reid said. “I had no idea the journey I was about to begin with her.”

Reid’s family has faced numerous challenges through this entire process. There have been times she did not know if she would survive, and the years on

dialysis were very trying while raising and caring for a family of six.



“My family knows not to take even one day for granted because we do know it can all change in a heartbeat,” Reid said.

If you were to ask her if she would choose life with or without a kidney disease, she chooses the disease.

“I like who I am, because of this disease so much more than the person I was without it,” Reid said. “My faith in God is so much stronger and the ties that bind my family are unbreakable because of this disease.”

Nutt said they spent a week together in Denver, Colorado reconnecting and preparing for the transplant. In the hospital they were in the same room

during recovery and spent time on Facebook to help their pain subside.

Nutt did not want this to come out publically. It was about Reid, not her. However, the praying for Kyla and Shelly Facebook page helped brighten their spirits and ease the pain with prayers and verses.

“Kyla got a kidney and I feel like I just got blessed beyond measure,” she said. “It stepped my faith up to a level I have never dreamed of before.”

Before this life-changing experience, Nutt never thought about being a living donor. She ad always listed herself as an organ donor on her driver’s license, but never thought about donating her organs while alive.

“If you know that someone’s life is going to be changed and maybe saved or even just to give someone hope – it is so worth it,” Nutt said.

Reid hopes this kidney will be the last kidney she will need. The only reason she was approved for a third transplant is because of a new drug, Soliris. Reid’s doctors are learning and hoping this drug will keep the disease in remission and from attacking this kidney.

“Hopefully, this will be a success story and someone else will keep from going through such a difficult time of sickness and heartache,” Reid said. “It’s then, that I will know it hasn’t been in vain, and I will have made a difference.”

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Lauren
Colorado, Texas



According to statistics issued by the Global Observatory on Donation & Transplantation, an average of 65,500 kidney transplants are performed around the world each year, which constitutes nearly 70 percent of solid organ transplants performed worldwide. Currently, on the kidney transplant waiting list, there are over 93,000 people on the kidney transplant waiting list. The wait for a deceased donor could be five years, and in some states, it is closer to 10 years.



Residence
100
March

Since you're giving
me a kidney, I thought
I should give you some
ideas worth saving.
LOL! Love you
and Jim so much!
Love you