



# NEWSLETTER

Stan Smith – President/Editor (205)655-3151  
Judy Burch – Secretary

Stephen Foster – Vice President/Chaplain  
Lori Higginbotham - Treasurer

## SUPPORT GROUP MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

This month's dinner/meeting will be at Seasons 52, 245 Summit Blvd, at the Summit, just off Highway 280, on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 PM. Please RSVP by 12 N on the 13<sup>th</sup> – call and leave a message at 205-655-3151, or email to [heartlungkid1@gmail.com](mailto:heartlungkid1@gmail.com).



*The new heart & lung transplant recipients  
No new release forms received*

### HAPPY HEART AND LUNG DAY! (September)

- (H) Jimmy Ray Suggs '89
- (H) Katherine Hurst Teague '89
- (H) Harold Killough '96
- (L) Summer Katz '97
- (H) David W. Tangerman '97
- (H) Dennis L. Johnson '98
- (L) Billie Ann Russell '98
- (L) Edward E. Lee '98
- (H) Alfred 'Fuad' Salloux (K 4/08) '99
- (H) Riley J. Enfinger '01
- (H) Donald H. Morgan '05
- (H) Emily Harmon '06
- (L) Robert A. Ray '07
- (L) Robert Leon McClendon '08
- (L) William Irby '10
- (L) Mary O'Donovan '10
- (H) Dan J. Hackett '16

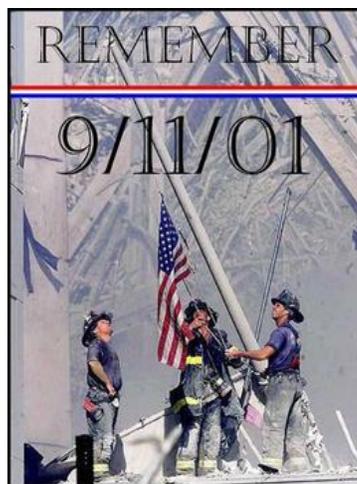


*The new liver transplant recipients are:  
No new release forms received*

### HAPPY LIVER DAY! (September)

- (LIV) Chris G. Hartley '92
- (LIV) Connie Nobles (2<sup>nd</sup> 04) '96
- (LIV) Chalaicia Maria Freeman (Ped) '98
- (LIV) Joseph C. Parks III '00
- (LIV) Darryl E. Evans '01
- (LIV) Timothy Little '01
- (LIV) Stanley H. Ishee '02
- (LIV) George C. Lucas '04
- (LIV) Jan Clay '05
- (LIV) Sanford Sain '07
- (LIV) Charles Murphy '07
- (LIV) J. Henry Hodges '08
- (LIV) John R. Parker '09
- (LIV) Jeanette Walker '11
- (LIV) Larry Jeffrey '12
- (LIV/K) Donna Eddins '13
- (LIV) Tom Bomberger '16

- (LIV) John F. Dykes '16
- (LIV) Patthia A. Tyus '16
- (LIV) Sandra King '16
- (LIV) Linda Payne '17



### **Message from Stan Smith, President**

The first day of fall is just a few weeks away and some of the stores in our area already have Christmas decorations out along with cinnamon scented items! Well, this is a problem for my daughter – she is allergic to cinnamon. So, she will not be visiting these stores until after the first of the year ☺. On another note, football season is here! Go UAB Blazer!

As we approach the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Support Group, I have been thinking about many of the people that I have met over the last 29 years through the Support Group. I thought that I might share some of the many stories about these people.

First, I will start with my sweetie, Nancy Smith. Nancy was born in 1946 and has a twin brother, Danny. There was always a size difference – even at first, the doctors were not sure that Nancy would survive the first night, but she did...in a big way. Even in school, she was the smallest in her class. She did not let her size stop her, only 'asthma' would slow her down. Nancy's family was a musical family, her Dad taught guitar his entire career. However,

Nancy was the dancer of the family and did not play a musical instrument.

Now fast forward to late 1964. I started taking guitar lessons from Mr. Archer and immediately noticed Nancy as she was checking in the students. I finally asked out on a date, and from then on, neither of us dated anyone else. We were married in 1966 [she was 4' 11" and weighed around 80 pounds]. In 1972, she gave birth to our daughter, Tammy.

Now this is where the real story starts. In 1974, Nancy needed a wisdom tooth extracted. Because she had been experiencing more asthma problems, I got her to visit my doctor. His standard office visit included a blood test, an EKG and a chest X-Ray. He found that she had a very enlarged heart and that her asthma was in fact an atrial-septal defect in her heart. Now open heart surgery looked like the way to go. Because of size, Dr. John Kirklin was the most obvious person for her surgery. Believe it or not, we were able to get an appointment within a week of her diagnosis. A number of tests later, Dr. Kirklin advised us that open heart surgery could not be performed on her because of the pressures in her

### **UAB HEART, LUNG AND LIVER TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP Release Form**

I give permission for my name, transplant number and transplant date to be used by the UAB Heart, Lung and Liver Transplant Support Group for inclusion in the monthly Newsletter and Support Group Scrapbook. I understand that this information will be used only for official Support Group activities.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Transplant Type \_\_\_\_\_ Transplant Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

lungs. He said with proper medication and diet that she might live another 5 years! Remember we have a two year old daughter. Nancy's response was "I'll show him"! As she did.

Fast forward to 1989 (a long '5' years later), Nancy was now a patient of Dr. Jim Kirklín (son of John) and was a candidate for a heart/double lung transplant. He wanted her to be the first one at UAB, but she said "I want you to get the 'bugs' worked out first". On October 3, 1989, she became the third person to have a heart/double lung transplant at UAB. Her donor was eleven year old Scott Parrish of Eufaula. This young man had a fatal brain injury after being struck by a car while he was riding his bike – just three weeks earlier, he had told his Mom that if anything happened to him, he wanted to be an organ donor. He is forever my hero!

Things were great until 1999 when another blood test indicated that something was not quite right with her kidneys. Yes, cyclosporine had done a number of her kidneys. She then needed a kidney transplant. Her sister, Dolores Traylor, was the best match and on May 12, 1999, Nancy became the first of the heart/double lung transplant patients to have a kidney transplant!

By the Grace of God, two organ donors – one deceased and one living – and some very gifted surgeons at UAB, Nancy survived 18 years post transplant. She got to see our daughter graduate high school, go to college, get married and have our only grandchild. Also, her sister, Dolores, had a child about two years after the kidney donation!

*More stories to come!*

#### **Congratulations to David Miller – Another Gold Medal at the World Transplant Game**



David, third from the left, won the Gold Medal in ten pin bowling at the World Games that were held a couple of weeks ago in Newcastle, Gateshead, United Kingdom. David, an avid bowler, and a liver and bone marrow recipient, has participated in at least 5 World Transplant Games with Team USA. He also has participated in numerous US Transplant Games with Team Alabama and Transplant Games of America with Team Mississippi.

#### **'An Organ Donor Saved My Life'**

This is the saying on a T-shirt that the Legacy of Hope is using for a fund raising project. With the funds generated by the selling of the T-shirts, special gifts will be given to the Donor Families in addition to the Bronze Medallion now presented during the Donor Recognition Ceremony.

If you would be interested in a T-shirt, the cost will be \$12 including shipping and handling (make checks payable to **Legacy of Hope Educ. Fund**).

**Legacy of Hope  
(Aftercare Department)  
502 20<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Birmingham, AL 35233**

You can also contact Jill Malone at the Legacy of Hope, 205-801-7353.

Remember, you may never know when you might change someone's mind about organ donation through sharing your story. You may even change their life!

Please send your ideas for future meetings to me. Remember to tell your story.

**Stan Smith, President**  
**5213 Peppertree Lane**  
**Trussville, AL 35173**  
**Phone 205-655-3151- please leave a message**  
**Heartlungkid1@gmail.com**

#### **SCHEDULED EVENTS & FUTURE MEETINGS**

October 19, 2019 – Informal dinner meeting  
(30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Support Group)  
November 16, 2019 – Informal dinner meeting  
December 25, 2019 – annual Christmas Lunch  
January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Informal dinner meeting

#### **Informal Dinner/Meeting**

Several of our group members get together for an informal dinner/meeting once a month. This month's dinner meeting will be at Seasons 52, 245 Summit Blvd, at the Summit, just off Highway 280, on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 PM. Any pre/post heart, lung or liver transplants and family, donor families, doctors, nurses and staff are welcome to join. Please be sure to let us know that you plan to join in by calling Stan Smith at 205-655-3151 and leave a message.

And remember to... 😊

***"Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday."***

**...Don Marquis**  
(From Brainyquote.com)

Please tear on the dotted line and return this form as soon as possible to:

UAB Heart, Lung and Liver Transplant Support Group  
% Stan Smith  
5213 Peppertree Lane  
Trussville, AL 35173