

Will You Gift Justin Lammerts Another Chance at Life?

In 1997, our Son, Justin, got a second chance at life after being born with a heart defect. Unfortunately, the medicines that protected his transplanted heart have damaged his kidneys and he now needs a kidney transplant.

Before he fell ill again, Justin was able to lead a semi-normal life. Justin worked full-time for the State of New York, earning two promotions. Justin has an intense passion for history and traveled to London, France, and even a solo trip to Italy to see the worlds most beautiful art and architecture. He has a rich imagination and enjoys Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, and attended Comic-Con in NYC several years in a row before falling ill. We laugh everyday we are around Justin, as he has a witty and off-beat sense of humor. I smile thinking about hearing him cackle from the other room while he is watching his favorite TV show, Seinfeld.



As Justin's condition has worsened, he has lost the ability to do the things he loves. He even had to miss both his brother's and best friend's wedding in the last two years. Riding his bike and walking on the beach have become challenging these days. If Justin doesn't get a transplant, he will have to go on dialysis soon, which will mean he will be chained to a machine which filters his blood for him. It breaks my heart to think about all the things he will not be able to do. A transplant would give him the ability to live a longer, more healthy life where he can do the things that he loves.

For many reasons, Justin's close family members are not able to be his donor. Finding a kidney for a transplant is not easy. There are 110,000+ people on the waiting list for a deceased donor kidney. Most people must wait for years and many die while waiting. Will you give Justin the gift of a better life?

1. Facts about being a Living Donor: You only need one kidney to live a long healthy life.
2. Donor surgery is usually done through a tiny incision (laparoscopically).
3. Is covered by insurance/Medicare.
4. You will have your own team of doctors who will evaluate if its right for YOU.
5. Screening can be done anonymously, so you will not feel pressure.
6. If you are not a match, you can still "donate" to Justin through a program called a donor swap.

Please contact Duke Health Transplant Center, Living Donor Program: Call 919-613-7777 or 800-249-5864, if you are interested in learning more about donating a kidney to Justin Lammerts.

www.dukehealth.org/treatments/transplant-program/kidney-donation

Living donation may not be right for everyone — but you can still help! Consider being an organ donor after death, and by **sharing Justin's story with everyone you know**. You never know who might want to be a living donor. At the very least I want to bring awareness to kidney disease and living donation. I am hopeful our efforts will help Justin receive a kidney sooner, and encourage others to consider helping the many people on the wait list. Your prayers and support are very much appreciated!

Thank you.