Lone Star Circle of Life Bike Tour

Local Events: San Marcos

Day 6

Thursday, October 28
San Antonio to San Marcos

The Lone Star Circle of Life team will ride into San Marcos on Thursday, October 28th. They will arrive at the Texas State University - George's Tavern (located inside LBJ Student Center)
601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666 at 1:00 pm. After meeting their honorees, the riders will be introduced and they will share why they are riding in the Lone Star Circle of Life Bike Tour. The riders will then introduce the local honorees they rode for that day.

A registration for the Be The Match Registry and the “DonateLifeTexas” registry will be held. (download [map](#) here)

**Event Coordinator**

For more information, contact:

**Yvonne Ybarra**
South Texas Blood and Tissue Center
6211 I-10 West
San Antonio, TX 78201
Phone: 210-731-5513

**Day Riders**

**Lisa Meng** - Lisa is an advocate of donation and is riding in memory and honor of Kevin Underhill.

*If you are interested in being a day rider with the team, contact the event coordinator.*

**Honorees**

![Judson L. Fillmore Jr. - Tissue Donor](#)

Our husband, father and great grandfather, Judson Fillmore, always took time to care for others during
his life. He was always seeking out ways to help anyone in need.

Today he continues to help others a year and a half after his death by having been a tissue, bone and eye donor as well as donating his body to further medical research.

Judson’s greatest gift of all was openly sharing his desire for organ, tissue, and body donation. This has helped our family in so many ways, not only knowing so many lives have been changed by his gift, but also with the ability for our family to be able to honor his last request. This has been both healing and strengthening.

The greatest lessons he ever shared was the importance of being able to help and care for others and the importance of openly sharing your end of life wishes with those you love.

Margaret Martinez - Marrow Transplant Recipient
Ms. Martinez had an allogeneic bone marrow transplant (Matched Unrelated Donor) in November 2009 for her diagnosis of leukemia.

She has had a rocky road, but has maintained a positive attitude throughout her journey. Her calm, sweet voice and beautiful smile is an inspiration to the staff and patients. She has a wonderful supportive family who has been at her side throughout this tough climb.

Dr. Carlos Brown - Transplant Supporter
Dr. Carlos Brown (Trauma Medical Director at University Medical Center Brackenridge) is being honored for his continuing research, focus and support of organ donation which have allowed Texas Organ Sharing Alliance to build a cohesive relationship within the culture of the hospital.

Dr. Brown’s efforts are much appreciated and deserve to be recognized during this very special event.
James Dorsey - Peripheral Blood Stem Cell Donor

James Dorsey donated his stem cells to a thirty seven year-old man in January 2010.

James did not think twice about donating his stem cells to a total stranger. He believes, “It’s the right thing to do”.

James, a regular blood donor, has such a great sense of humor and not to mention his love of golf.

On collection day, we remember the look in James’ eyes. He was so moved after his donation, he had realized what he had just done. He gave another person a second chance at life.

Kevin Underhill - Organ Donor

Kevin was competing in a bicycle race when he was involved in an accident. His injuries were critical and he died a few days later.

Kevin was an organ donor and saved several lives with his generous gift.

“My son loved adventures and participation in all sorts of sports as well as watching and coaching others. He thrived on taking on challenges, mastering them in precise detail with his alert and sharp mind. Above all, he took great care in helping and encouraging family members, friends and anybody in need. He was funny, modest and very honest”~Edele Underhill, Kevin’s mother
Jesus Villalobos, Jr. – Kidney Transplant Recipient

“I received my kidney transplant on April 15, 2010 at 10:30 am.

At the age of 11 years, I was diagnosed with diabetes. Over the years, if affected my body and kidneys. In March of 2006, I had end-stage renal failure which put me on dialysis for four hours a day, three times a week. Once my hope grew gray, I received a gift of life from an angel. Never lose faith nor give up on hope.

Kasey Kaufman - Organ Donor

This past May, Kasey Kaufman was tragically killed in an automobile accident in Kerrville.

Kasey’s family had previously had a discussion about organ donation, so his parents, Rebecca Edwards and Kevin Kaufman knew what his wishes were and did not hesitate to make the decision to let Kasey give others a second chance at life.

Kasey gave five other people the wonderful second chance of life by his donations.

Matt Cornett, Cancer Survivor

Matt has always had a passion for football, both on and off the field. He received a scholarship to play at
New Mexico and three games into his freshman season he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Matt went through surgery and after a month he was diagnosed with lymphoma in his abdominal area. During his four months of chemo, Matt stayed strong and kept himself healthy by working out regularly with the hope of returning to football. Fortunately, he was able to return to the field after three months of treatment, but his body was weak and wouldn’t allow him to participate. He came back to his home in Texas where he has developed a new love for mixed martial arts.

He is now a year out of chemo and working as a correctional officer en route to becoming a police officer.

Col. Raymond Holmes – Cord Blood Recipient
Col. Raymond Holmes is a delightful man with a hearty laugh, a positive outlook on life, a proud history of service to his country and two units of umbilical cord blood from babies he likely will never know.

If only these mothers could see Col. Holmes today- robust still at age 70, with the miraculous gift of rich blood- making stem cells giving him a new lease on life. Diagnosed in 200 with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, Col. Holmes underwent intensive chemotherapy, which brought his cancer into submission for almost five years. Then it returned with a vengeance and he sought in vain for a bone marrow match. Ray said, “As an African-American, finding a stem cell match was like searching for a needle in a haystack.”

Ray was referred to a doctor at the Texas Transplant Institute, and two weeks later they found a cord blood match. Now his donors-two children and their moms from the Midwest and the west coast- are big heroes in this big man’s eyes. He carries their gift of life in his blood and carries them all in his heart.

Kimberly Ann Hernandez - Leukemia Patient and Donation Advocate
“My name is Kimberly Ann Hernandez and I am 19 years old. I was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia on June 25, 2010.
Before I was diagnosed, I was a full-time student at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. My goal is to finish my treatment and return to the University to finish my degree to become a child psychologist.

Being diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, one of many forms of leukemia, has widened my knowledge of cancer in general and the everyday struggle that patients face. An angel from the South Texas Blood & Tissue Center came to visit me at the hospital to educate me and my family, and provide us with information about the National Marrow Donor Program. We knew instantly we had to act and help motivate and involve the San Antonio community. With each bone marrow donation, the chance of a lifetime is possible. The power to give someone a second chance at life is a wonderful feeling for both the recipient and the donor. Please help me help others understand, learn and participate in the marrow program.

This has been the challenge of my life, but my journey is not being walked alone. Along with the support from family, friends and the community, I will overcome this obstacle and together we can create miracles.

With the generous support of people like you, we will be able to help many of these individuals and families not only to meet their daily medical needs, but to work toward a brighter future with education and counseling.

For more information on how your donation is helping to make a difference in the lives of so many in our community, we invite you to visit the web site at marrow.org. Thank you”

Tina Schultz - Cancer Survivor and Donation Advocate

“My name is Tina Schultz and I am Director of the Office of Disability Services at Texas State University-San Marcos. When I was 16 years old, I was involved in a single motor vehicle accident which resulted in my being a quadriplegic which was a life changing event. I never imagined that I would be diagnosed with stage III breast cancer in 2002.

After seven years of remission my cancer returned in 2009. I have now been in remission since April 2009. I enjoy and treasure each day as a wonderful gift.”

Tina also serves on the steering committee for the Texas State University CAMCO committee.