Threads of Life

Idaho Quilt

YES IDAHO  
YESIDAHO.ORG

DONATE  
LIFE

2016
ABOUT THIS QUILT

Through simple fabric, a monumental story unfolds.

Ordinary people with extraordinary stories of inspiration, hope and courage create quilt squares as a means of sharing their story and spreading the word about the critical need for and benefits of organ, eye, and tissue donation.

This quilt is dedicated to the memory of those who gave the gift of life, sight and mobility. It also celebrates the lives of transplant recipients and offers hope to those awaiting transplant. Each quilt is comprised of individually-designed squares created by people touched by organ, eye, and tissue donation.

This scrapbook honors donors and celebrates recipients in the Idaho region. The stories and pictures in this scrapbook are personal contributions from families and friends. Each unique square carries with it its own special meaning to those that submitted it.

Threads of Life quilts are meant to serve as a beautiful and inspiring tribute, as well as a thought-provoking testament to the fact that organ, eye, and tissue donation and transplantation transform lives.

“Yes Idaho!” Quilt Contributors

Blocks collected by Vicki Thomas
Assembled and quilted by Tina Stratford-Brown
Workshop Quilters: Betty Frisby, Deena Bodily, Bev Hoek, and Mary Temple

We thank you!
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Born in Great Falls, Montana, Andrew Jensen spent many years in Phoenix, Arizona and Boise, Idaho. He owned a mechanic shop in Nampa, Idaho.

Andrew lived life to the fullest. A talented skier who was invited to join the Junior National racing team, Andrew and his son skied together every winter weekend for ten years at Bogus Basin in Boise. Andrew enjoyed the relaxation and peace of fishing and was passionate about cooking, especially sushi. He was often hired for private parties. He planted the biggest garden in the neighborhood and canned massive amounts of salsa and pickles. In 2010, Andrew finally experienced his dream of owning a Harley Davidson and embraced everything about the bike.

An extrovert to the very depth of his being, Andrew was passionate about people! His heart was wide and deep and his magnetic personality attracted a diverse group of friends. He was fiercely loyal and compassionate, maintaining lifelong relationships. If you could put a sign on the door of his heart it would have read “Everyone welcome, come on in, what are you drinking?”

Andrew passed away November 14, 2011 following a motorcycle accident. He was able to donate his liver, kidneys, and corneas.
April truly enjoyed every minute of her life and never took anything or anyone for granted. She had so much love for her friends and family and would go to the end of the world for them if she needed to.

Her horse named Cisco and two Chihuahuas, Princess and Tito, were her pride and joy and gave her so much happiness in life. She found much peace at the ranch, spending time with Cisco and helping each other grow.

She had so much compassion and love for all animals regardless of type, shape, breed, or color but horses were her favorite. April also enjoyed collecting and shooting different types of guns as well as her compound bow. She and her husband had fun riding bikes on the Boise greenbelt and stopping for lunch and a cold beer along the way. She was always so spontaneous, so each day with her was a new adventure. The world lost a truly special and beautiful soul but she will live on in our hearts and memories.
Austin Tyler was fun loving, full of life, and had never met a stranger. He loved BSU and cooking. He had just completed culinary school and was working two jobs. He has three beautiful sisters and a mom who adore him. Austin donated his heart, liver, and kidneys.
Brenda was born in Pocatello, Idaho on June 3, 1970. She graduated from Challis High School in 1988 and on June 25, 1988 Brenda married her best friend and high school sweetheart, Dustin Inskeep. They had two daughters and a son: Danielle, Emily, and Alex.

In the midst of raising a family, Brenda fulfilled a lifelong dream of earning a BS in nursing from Boise State University. As an inpatient wound care nurse, she found joy in helping everyone from premature infants in the NICU to elderly and special needs population. Her compassion and love for others, as well as her calm demeanor and clever sense of humor made her an incredible nurse.

Brenda was a loving mother to Danielle, Emily, and Alex. She volunteered for many years at Liberty Elementary School, at Love Inc. and at the Special Olympics. She enjoyed family trips to Yellowstone, the Oregon Coast, Glacier National Park, and family reunions near Stanley, Idaho.

Dustin was offered a position in Xi’an, China in 2013. Brenda moved with him and made China her home for two years. She filled her days learning Mandarin, calligraphy, painting, cooking, and dancing. She continued to host and entertain family, friends, and colleagues. She was active in local Christian fellowship and taught Sunday school. Brenda and Dustin traveled throughout Asia, taking their children on many of their adventures.
This quilt square honors our beloved daughter Brooklyne Kayla Williams. Brooklyne was born on April 15, 1993 in Boise, Idaho with a rare medical condition called Short Bowel Syndrome. Although Brooklyne had a disability she did not let it define her life. She lived to the fullest, loving life, enjoying hobbies such as dancing, traveling, and anything to do with water, especially beaches.

Many people didn’t know Brooklyne had medical issues. She kept it a secret and wanted people to see her as she was: a strong, loving, generous soul. Brooklyne was such a beautiful strong person that everyone who met her instantly loved her. Brooklyne was attending Boise State University and was a member of a sorority when she passed away. Brooklyne would tell her doctors that they would need to schedule procedures, surgeries, or discharge her from the hospital so she could attend classes; she was able to maintain A’s and B’s.

In her honor her sorority sisters made #Brooklynestrong bracelets to help fund a scholarship in her name. Brooklyne always knew there might be a possibility of her needing a transplant some day and told her family that if she passed on, she would like to donate whatever organs or tissues she could. Brooklyne died on August 16, 2013 after battling a long courageous year of medical issues. She left behind a love that will never be forgotten by her family and friends. She will forever be in our hearts, and always be our beautiful guardian Angel.
David Michael Keever passed away suddenly March 23, 2015 in Boise, Idaho. He was born in Kansas City, MO. to Leslie and Leona Keever on April 30, 1959. He was raised by his paternal grandparents, Dale and Elizabeth Keever in Little River, Kansas. After losing his grandparents David moved to Idaho and loved it here. He married the love of his life, Cathy Crisp June 11, 2011. They had 4 yrs. together before God called him home. David owned Keever Construction and volunteered for Interfaith Volunteers in his free time.

David was a Christian man who believed in helping others. He was there to assist with all the widows in our church when needed. He and his wife were the Co-Directors of the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief. When he passed away, his wife, Cathy, donated his organs so that even in death he could continue to help others.
Deani was born August 9, 1963 in Spokane Washington. She was raised in Twin Falls, Idaho and moved to the Boise area in 1983 where she met and married her husband of 28 years, Jeffrey. Deani was employed at St. Luke’s Hospital Medical Library for nearly ten years. In 1991 she and Jeffrey moved to Parma, Idaho. Once she gave birth to her son, she decided to become a stay-at-home mom. While in Parma, she was a very active member of the Sterry Memorial Presbyterian Church. She served on the board of Deacons, taught children’s Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, and God’s Gang.

Deani developed, organized, and managed the church library until her illness necessitated her leaving. She was a passionate reader and she loved to share her books and insight. Her faith and devotion was an inspiration to all. She loved to camp, fish, and take pictures of her family and friends. She was a passionate gardener and loved to can what she grew. Best of all was her homemade ravioli dinner. It is with sadness that we grieve the loss of Deani, yet with great joy we know part of her lives on with her unselfish donation.
DEBRA JEAN THACKER

Square submitted by: Walter & Marilyn Myers

This quilt square was designed with love by her family as a tribute to Debbie. At the age of 56, Debbie left this world way too soon due to complications of a tragic house fire. She was a very caring and loving individual and it was her wish to be an organ donor. Her compassionate decision to be an organ donor saved the lives of two recipients and enhanced the lives of many more. The Idaho Eye Bank and Community Tissue Services were also able to extend her offer to restore sight to two individuals.

Debbie touched many lives and was loved by all who knew her. Her siblings will always remember her as “Little Sis.” Debbie’s life was enriched by her children: a son Brian, a daughter Kelsey, and a grandson Karson, who were the light of her life. Her radiant smile was so contagious, it made other people laugh and smile. She enjoyed many adventurous camping and fishing trips as well as musical concerts with friends and family. We consider her the best of the best daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, and friend. She is greatly missed but will never be forgotten.
Ed was a loving husband, father of four, brother, and friend to everyone. He was able to give the gift of life to four people and help many others through bone and tissue donation. As his family, we feel blessed that we had no doubt of his wish to be an organ donor. We have developed a passion for organ donation and inspiring others to talk to their loved ones about being a donor.
In 1991 a baby girl entered this world. In every way it was just a normal miraculous birth. Soon, however, a personality emerged which revealed a spirited one-of-a-kind young girl. We quickly realized that Esther Young was very unique.

She was unique in her hairstyles and headbands, her hats and beads, her creative use of the English language (she would create new words out of thin air), her captivating laughter, her stunning beauty, and her special ability to sleep anytime and anywhere on earth.

Esther cared little for impressing the masses or swimming with the current. She did, however, care much for others. She made others a priority whatever their background or social status in life. She was loyal to a fault and considered true friendship the highest virtue.

Esther was an artist and she loved to paint and sculpt. She left behind amazing works of art. She was wise beyond her years, brought comfort and counsel to her friends, and was deeply spiritual.

Today she walks with Jesus. She breathed the breath of God when she gave herself to His Son Jesus Christ nearly 18 years ago. She was not perfect (none of us are) but she loved her Savior and now walks with Him.
FAY MARIE JEAN ANNEKER

Square submitted by: Breana Fisher

She loved Doc McStuffins—it’s a show. We look forward to helping other children in this time. Parents Breana and John.
Fredrick donated his corneas on November 2, 2013. The quilt square is red with a gold duck in flight on the top left corner. The bottom right corner embroidered in black is Fredrick’s signature and his birth and death years (1952-2013).

Fred was born and raised in Spirit Lake, Iowa. He attended college at Idaho State University where he met his wife, Cathy. Fred and Cathy were married June 1, 1974 at Sacred Catholic Church in Emmett, Idaho amongst family and friends. Upon returning to Pocatello for Cathy to finish school, Fred began work for Idaho First National Bank as a manager trainee.

His banking career took him to Wyoming where Fred and Cathy lived for the next thirteen years. During their stay in Wyoming, they welcomed baby Sarah into the family. In 1989 Fred and Cathy decided being closer to family and friends was a priority. This realization brought them to Ontario, OR. Fred believed in giving back to the community and supporting area children and schools. He touched many lives throughout his years in Ontario and held all of his employees and business partners close to his heart.

Fred was an excellent marksman and enjoyed bird hunting and big game hunting. One of his greatest accomplishments was shooting his first elk with a single shot Ruger #1. In recent years, he was able to develop a special relationship with his daughter, Sarah, and spent many weekends with his family in McCall. He enjoyed snowmobiling with his son-in-law and good friends.

Fred was a proud third degree Mason, member of the Scottish Rite, and a Shriner. He also organized the purchase of 4H animals to be sent to the Portland Shriner’s Hospital every year. He served on the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon Diocesan Council, Foundation Board of Directors for TVCC, and was the Ontario Chamber of Commerce President in 1996.

Although dearly missed by his family, friends, and community, Fred’s legacy lives in through the donation of his corneas. May the lucky person who received his beautiful green eyes always see the world as Fred saw it….imperfectly perfect.
Jacob could light up a room with one twinkle of his eyes. He could make any group of people burst into uncontrollable laughter. He could talk to any adult and they’d ponder his insight for hours. He did not believe in wasting life, and he knew no stranger.

In his spare time he loved to read the encyclopedia and then talk about all the things that he had learned. Jacob’s internal wisdom had most people in awe and there was no doubt that he would have been an amazing philosopher. That had been his dream. He loved music, history, strange facts, scary stories, hot summer days, extreme sports, playing guitar, and speaking German with his teacher. Most of all, he loved his friends, family, and the countless hours we spent together. He wanted to know everything about us; he took time to listen. Shortly before his death, Jacob said, “taking time to share the lives of the people you care about it what life is all about. Everything else is just stuff”.

He is best known for his sincere hugs which he gave out freely. He desired to listen to what people had to say, and he had the ability to love and be friends with anyone who crossed his path. He would be honored to know that he gave the gift of life to those in need.
He was an 8 week old baby boy who had severe reflux. He donated his heart to a baby girl and his kidneys to a 24 year old man in Dec 2013. He was an amazing little boy.
Jamie was a 37-year-old loving mother and wife. From Jerome, Idaho she was born in Riverside California. Mother of Eric McDonald and wife to John Baldwin. She devoted her life to taking care of her son and husband. She loved animals which included several dogs, donkeys, mini horses, and goats. Jamie was the type of person that would do anything for anyone. Donating her organs only seemed fitting; may she rest in peace.
JENIFER DAWN ROBERTS-WHITE

Square submitted by: Shirley Roberts

Jenifer was born April 16, 1973 to Paul Geoffrey White and Shirley Ann-Mara Roberts. She was raised and schooled in the San Francisco Bay area moving to Boise in high school. Growing up, Jen was into gymnastics, ice skating (especially broom ball), skiing at Lake Tahoe, basketball, and swimming.

In high school she was on the dance team. At age 10, Jen was baptized and grew to love Christian rock with Amy Grant being her idol. Jen was fortunate enough to visit most of the amusement parks and beaches in California with Santa Cruz boardwalk being on the top of her list. She was a lover of animals and had many pets, but, Loppy, her French lop-ear rabbit was most dear to her.

Jen passed away on August 17, 2015. Her kidneys and liver were donated to a research facility. She was preceded in death by all of her grandparents and her father. She leaves behind her mother Shirley, big brother Jason, nephew Logan, and children Geoffrey (wife Genna, daughter Lilly), Chance, and Aerial.
After all this time, it occurs to me that organ donation is more than just a single miracle. It is the beginning of a ripple that keeps flowing limitlessly. Almost 19 years after I was given the gift of a kidney transplant - my ripples are still building. I have had a rewarding career as an Organ Donation Coordinator for 9 years. I am married to a wonderful man. I am the proud mother of a beautiful 3-year-old boy. And now - I am going to be a mother once again through the equally incredible gift of surrogacy. These are just a few of the milestones accomplished because of my transplant in 1997. This square is in honor of the donation from my beloved mother who has made this all possible. And also in honor of all those who have given this same gift. Never ending ripples of miracles. Life does indeed go on!
JOSEPH WAYNE GRAHAM III

Square submitted by: Erin Bessey

This square is in honor and in loving memory of my first born, Joseph “Joey” Graham. Joey was just 22-months-old when he was called to Heaven. He had a smile every day of his life; a smile that lit up every room he entered. He was a very happy little boy at all times.

Joey had a little brother who was born 11 days after he passed away. He was so very excited to be a big brother. He would kiss and hug my belly every day. Joey loved to dance and sing. He adored Elmo, and he had a bright red Valentine’s Day giraffe that he would drag around with him everywhere.

I could never have imagined living without one of my children, but through the wonderful gift of organ donation he lived on through others. Joey’s kidneys and liver were donated to help others live a life he wasn’t able to. His memory and spirit live on in our hearts and minds. Not a day goes by that we don’t think of our little angel. Rest in paradise, little man. Mommy loves you!
Our little angel, Klayton Erwin Hanson was born April 6, 2013 weighing 7 pounds, 15 oz. He had a full head of blond hair. He was perfect in every way. He looked very much like his daddy and was so very handsome. During his short time here on earth he was loved by many family and friends. We sang “You are my Sunshine” to him all the time because he truly was “our sunshine.” We told him stories that we thought we would share with him when he was older. Klayton’s favorite book was called “The Kissing Hand,” which had been given to him by one of the NICU nurses.

Although it was so very hard to say goodbye, we are very happy for the time we were able to spend with him and the gift that he was able to offer. The fact that we know he is living on in others has offered comfort in a time of tragedy. We knew he would do great things in life but little did we know he would do it at such a young age. Klayton will forever be in our hearts and we love and miss him each and every day.
LACEY MARY HAYE

Square submitted by: Stan and Diana Haye

Lacey grew up on a ranch in Kimberly, Idaho. She was a top scholar, athlete, and was funny and loving to everyone. Lacey started a chapter of the Mona Foundation while she was in high school. It is an organization that provides books to women in Africa. She was working towards a degree in elementary education when she died in an accident. She loved sunflowers, her family, her horse Hank, and all of her friends. She made the decision to be a donor when she first got her driver’s license. It was fitting that Lacey was as giving in death as in life. She is greatly missed and remembered by all who loved her.
My nephew, Luke Grothaus, works for Community Tissue Services. He told me about this collection of quilt squares for the Idaho Gift of Life Quilt. I made this square in honor of him and the good work he does.
When Mark Jaszkowski asked me to make a block for the Gift of Life Quilt in memory of his wife, Monica, I was honored. I had several ideas but I kept coming back to the fact that Monica was such a loving and caring person that a heart was the perfect metaphor for her life. The threads represent all of the people that touched or were touched by Monica. This block was inspired by an art quilt from designer Keiko Goke. It is made in memory of Monica and honors Dr. Francios Trotta and the Idaho Retina Team.

Monica was born in Boise and raised in Mountain Home, Idaho. Growing up the daughter of a farmer, she started competing in rodeo at age 6 and was helping on the farm driving equipment by age 14. Monica was active in Girl Scouts, horseback riding, and student council. She was also a Candy Stripe volunteer and a skydiver. Due to outstanding academic achievement, she was a 1977 National Merit Scholar and US Presidential Scholar from Idaho. During high school graduation, Monica accepted a US Navy scholarship to Oregon State University where she met the love of her life, Mark Jaszkowski. Upon graduation, she was commissioned as an officer in the US Navy and married Mark, also a naval officer. Monica served nine years with distinction and later moved with Mark through his naval career. They lived in Seattle, England, Belgium, Idaho, San Diego, and multiple times in Washington D.C.

She was a Girl Scout troop leader, trainer, service unit leader, council board member, and led the US national delegation on an international Jamboree. Monica was a wonderful mother to her two daughters, Amanda and Sara. She is remembered as a woman of great courage, intellect, love, and compassion. Her warm, welcoming, non-judgmental spirit, open ear, and huge heart made her a welcomed friend to all she met. The kindness and unconditional love she gave freely to all defined her and filled her days helping others. In death she chose the ultimate gift of herself to others in becoming a donor.
OLIVIA ANN SHNACKER

Square submitted by: Mindy Shnacker

Forever loved forever remembered.
Her picture doesn’t do justice to how wonderful her smile was; it could light up a room and provide comfort to anyone in need. Polly was always the first person to help someone in need, even when it took everything she had to give. She is a mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and grandmother.

Her love of life meant she never met a stranger and made friends everywhere she went. She is missed so much by everyone who loved her. Donation was her last gift to give and we are so proud and honored to share her gift with others.
In 2011 I was diagnosed with salivary gland carcinoma. All of the tissue on the inside of my right cheek was removed and replaced with donated tissue.

Because of the gift from my tissue donor, I got my smile back. Thank you!
Riley was energetic, full of adorable laughs, and silly faces. He LOVED Thomas the Train and his blanket. He loved the stars and he loved to have stories read to him. He fiercely loved his big brother, Landon; they were inseparable.

Riley donated his heart, liver, and kidneys. Attached is a photo of Landon and Riley playing in Riley's crib. Landon would climb in there and play with him nearly every morning.
This square is a brief representation of Tayler’s life. “Once a Viking Always a Viking” is a quote that Tayler stated. He was an excellent baseball player. Our high school doesn’t have a baseball program. Several parents went to the school board and tried to get baseball at our school without any luck. We asked Tayler if he wanted us to go and talk to the athletic director about playing baseball at another school. He said, “I would rather get last place running track than leave my school. Once a Viking Always a Viking!” As Tayler was not one to get last, he woke up the next morning and said, “I want to learn how to play golf”. The summer before his freshman year he practiced and practiced golf. The next spring as a freshman he became our #1 golfer. The numbers on the quilt represent his number in athletics: #80 football, #20 basketball, and #10 baseball...all these add up to 110% which is what Tayler always gave. The “Go Broncos” quote is to represent his dedication as a fan to Boise State football. BSU was also on his list to attend for a degree in communications. He had a dream of working for ESPN. The A+ effort represents his 4.0 averages and his goal of becoming valedictorian of his graduating class of 2013. Lastly, the word “Leader” is a reflection of Tayler. He was a leader in the community, on the playing field, and in the classroom.

Tayler died on Saturday May 8, 2010. He was able to donate his corneas. We learned of his wish to be an organ donor on December 23, 2009. Tayler was waiting outside the DMV in Twin Falls to take his computer exam for his license. He told us that he wanted to be an organ donor, we told him he might need those parts. He stated, “God gives us perfect body parts in heaven”.

At his death, his family decided to honor Tayler’s wishes to donate. They hope and pray that his donation will help someone and give him or her vision. Wow, to see life through Tayler’s eyes would be awesome.

The description above says a lot about the person Tayler was. He was everyone’s friend. Months after he was gone, his family continued to learn of all of the things he did for others. Tayler had a special way of communicating with special education students. Often times he was their partner because of his compassion and friendship. Students who didn’t have friends were also his focus; making sure he spoke to them each day. He was the center of his group of friends and also had a special talent to relate to adults. We always knew Tayler was an extremely gifted and compassionate person.
Rocky (Roc) was just 22-years-old when he left us. He was a son, brother, and a new father. Rocky came into this world quickly and did not stop until his last day on Earth. He believed that what you did in between birth and death was live every day as if it were your last.

Roc had an infectious smile and confidence that made him a natural leader. At 6’5” it was not hard to understand how he made an impression when he entered a room. Roc’s love for sports, motocross racing, and riding his street bike, meant he always managed to find fun in everything he did. You would never have a dull moment hanging with him. Friends of his often tell me he always had your back. They often shared stories of all of the great things he did for those around him. He believed strongly in helping people out, or what he used to say, “Helping out the Underdog”.

Rocky became a father just 8 months prior to his death. His love of being a father showed in everything he did for his daughter, Monique. If you asked him, his greatest accomplishment was indeed Monique. She will tell you today that her daddy is up in Heaven riding his motorcycle. She undoubtedly is the greatest gift Roc could have left us.

Roc’s most precious gift he left for this world was the “Gift of Life“. He used to always tell people that you cannot take it with you so leave it for someone who can use it. For those of us lucky enough to have had him in our lives, we certainly are better for it. Roc believed we do not get to choose when we enter or leave this earth, so what we do while here is most important.

From our tragedy we found strength in knowing that out there, Rocky’s gift of life helped families stay together a while longer. The legacy he leaves behind is for all to remember that the simple act of giving can mean so much. We hope his generosity to help others will carry on to those that have received his “Gift of Life”.

He will live in our hearts forever and therefore never die—Rocky’s Family
Ryan Olson was born and raised in Boise, Idaho. He was a little brother to two, a friend to many, and a lover of all dogs. Above everything else, Ryan worshipped his two older brothers. Words cannot begin to describe the joy he gave to his family and everyone that knew him.

Ryan was diagnosed with epilepsy at the age of five and lost his life one month before his 19th birthday after suffering a seizure. Two years prior to Ryan’s death, his oldest brother Seth lost his life in a car accident. Seth was a registered organ donor, but due to the nature of his accident wasn’t able to fulfill that wish. Seth was very proud of his decision to be a donor and had several conversations with his family about it. When it came time for Ryan to get his driver’s license, he was pleased to follow in his brother’s footsteps and designate himself a donor.

Ryan was known to his family as “Lil’ King”. The loss of our little king has left a devastating hole in our lives. We find great comfort in knowing that through his decision to be an organ donor he was able to help someone.
Sandy was a woman of many varied talents and passions. Among those she so cherished were that of family, gardening, and her flower beds containing 150 different colors of Iris! She loved the mountains of the west, especially her home in Indian Valley, Idaho. Her yard reflected her passion for any flower that was colorful as well as hearty.

She loved the streams and rivers flowing from the mountains and how it gave life to the meadows. When conditions were just right, she would be out hunting for mushrooms that would be turned into unbelievable table fare.

Family, friends, and neighbors were the most treasured things in her life. She volunteered for local clubs and was a charter member of the ACHAL thrifty shop. This was an organization that gave to the local fire department as well as scholarships to people in the health care field. She loved to give her time, extra garden produce, always donated her blood, and even offered her body to research after succumbing to cancer.
The quilt square is St. Patrick’s Day theme with a four heart clover in honor of Scott’s heart donor on St. Patrick’s Day 2011. Scott was born with a congenital heart defect that was corrected by multiple surgeries before the age of three. The corrective surgeries led to arrhythmias and congestive heart failure starting when Scott was in his mid-twenties, leading to his need to receive a heart transplant. After nearly two years of waiting, in and out of the hospital, Scott was able to call his wife and family with the good news that he would receive his heart on St. Patrick’s Day 2011.

Since his transplant he has been able to move back home permanently to Southwestern Idaho and live the life with his wife they’d been talking about for years. Scott is sure to live every day to its fullest and he and his wife Kristen are more thankful than they can say. Because of the gift of life Scott was given, they became parents for the first time in the fall of 2013.
Shauna was 16-years-old when she passed away. She was a talented violinist, figure skater, member of the National Honors Society, recipient of the Youth Congressional Award from the Office of Congress, and a member of the Eagle High School Orchestra that played at Carnegie Hall. Shauna skated in the 2011 National qualifier and attended the 2011 National Dancing Championships.

Shauna had the wisdom of someone with years of life, was loved by everyone who knew her, and after her passing, by those who did not know her. Her smiling eyes were a window to her kind and sincere soul. She had the virtues of tolerance, kindness, understanding for others different than her, fortitude, and counsel. She smiled constantly and her laugh was hearty; her attitude so fabulous, she could have been a life coach for all of us. She would play her violin to calm the nerves of her adopted neurologically damaged hamster. Shauna was an environmentalist loving animals, the earth, and educating others about energy conservation. This quote was written by Shauna and a reflection of how she lived her life even though only through adolescence. “You are born with a heart of gold, and some hearts rust and deteriorate, but a rare few gold hearts beat strong for a lifetime, and die as a diamond”.

Shauna's end of this life became a bridge to five new lives. For our family, organ donation was the last act of love in the name of our loved one. For those who were recipients of Shauna’s organs, our hope for them is that they live a long, healthy, and happy life.
Shelly was born in Lindsay, CA on June 3, 1974. She was killed in a farming accident on their Temecula Blueberry Farm on April 27, 2012. She was trying out a new tractor which flipped on a steep hill killing her instantly. Shelly came into the world as a surprise and left the world as a surprise. She was thought to be a tumor for three months, but was discovered to be a baby just one day ahead of surgery for the removal of the tumor.

She was a delight from her first entrance into this world. Tremendously gifted, talented, and intelligent. She graduated from high school in three years, continuing her senior year as a college student at Porterville College. She received a scholarship to attend Point Loma Nazarene University as a Pre-Med student but changed her major to teaching in her third year. She wanted to make a difference in the world by teaching middle school. She was hired by Temecula School District in Temecula, CA where she was the assistant principal. She continued that occupation until her death. Shelly was a well loved and respected principal. Shelly was married to Michael Graesser for 12 years and they had two children: Daisy Mae and Gage River. Her first loves were God, her husband, her children, and everyone else. She knew her priorities and never failed to exceed expectations. Michael, Shelly, and Michael’s parents started a blueberry farm on Blueberry Hill. The farm was a dream of Shelly’s, and is still a very successful farm that is owned and operated by a family.

Shelly left behind a husband, young daughter, and son. She left a huge hole in all of our hearts. She wished to donate upon her death. We have received a letter from one of the tissue recipients who survived traumatic injury, a woman who had surgery requiring the donation of Shelly’s bone, cartilage, and skin grafts. She wrote us a beautiful letter of thanksgiving, saying she had never, in all her life, been loved so sincerely as in this one gift.

We are grateful that in her end, Shelly could bless someone, as well as many others, with her donation. We know this world is only temporary and our real home is in Heaven with our Lord. This is not the end for Shelly but only the beginning of Eternal Life. She would wish the same for others.

-Shelly’s mother (Mama Lou) and her precious family with love for our daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, niece, cousin, and friend.
The greatest hero we never knew is the donor that saved our Daddy's life.
Steven lived life. His love of life and fun were central to his life. As a child, he was always taking things apart and putting them back together. This continued into his adult life with vehicles. His last project was re-building a 1964 Ford pickup. He had a knack for finding the best in people. He could meet someone one day and be best friends the next. He encouraged everyone to be their best. He loved his two sons and was working for a better life with them.

He left us doing what he loved: riding his Harley. He provided a future for others through his gift of life: organ donation.
Susan was born in Washington State in September, 1958. She was raised in Idaho and passed away there in February 2013. As a child she loved playing with her two brothers and her sister. She also enjoyed her horse, Trixie, and several favorite playmates. As a teenager she attended a Quaker-endowed high school in California which fostered enthusiasm of the back-to-nature lifestyle and the folk arts such as embroidery, pottery, and quilting. She then developed her care-giving nature by pursuing a nursing career specializing in geriatric skilled nursing and psychiatric rehabilitation.

Susan’s life and death were devoted to caring for others, both personally and professionally. She was the mother of a daughter and a son, and the grandmother of a lovely boy. She nurtured two Boston Terriers as treasured companions. Susan was deeply loved and is missed on a daily basis by those whose lives she graced and influenced.

This quilt square portrays the flower “Black-eyed Susan” which is reminiscent of Susan who donated her lungs, liver, kidney, tissue, and corneas. As teenagers, Susan and her best friend Tracy explored the needle arts together, and enjoyed collecting antique fabrics and laces from yard sales, thrift stores, and flea markets. They learned to embroider and quilt, inspired by their interest in the books “Native Funk and Flash” and “Foxfire”. Together they made interesting florals worn over hiking boots with a (preferably elaborately embroidered) denim western shirt. The blue background fabric of the square is from Susan’s personal collection.
TROY HOLDEN STRATFORD & KENNETH NEIL STRATFORD

Square submitted by: Tina Stratford-Brown

Troy Stratford slept in a hospital bed and dreamt of hunting elk shortly after he gave his father an amazing birthday present. Ken Stratford just worried about his son after surgery. On October 22, 2001, doctors successfully transplanted 60% of Troy’s liver into Ken’s body.

Ken Stratford of Pocatello, Idaho had lived with primary sclerosing cholangitis, a rare liver disease that inflames and scars the bile ducts and eventually causes the liver to stop functioning, for 15 years. Within a month after the surgery was performed at the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, both of their livers had regenerated to their proper sizes.

Before the transplant, Ken underwent a procedure in which a balloon attached to a wire scope would be inflated inside of his main bile ducts to clear away scar tissue and open up the passage way. He has this procedure every 4-6 months; 18 times at a hospital in Minnesota and seven times at the Mayo Clinic.

Ken had been on the waiting list for a liver for two years at the time of the surgery. In August he took a turn for the worse and decided to do something before it was too late. Living donation for liver transplantation was a fairly new procedure at that time. Indeed, the Stratfords were only the seventh pair to undergo the surgery at that clinic.
My husband, William E. Augustine, was a man who was more than the sum of his parts. How does one showcase the vibrancy of a lost love through the confines of a 7” quilt square? I decided to let the fabric speak. I chose to accentuate his stewardship of nature and everything outdoors. In this way he followed in his father’s footsteps. He helped his father build a wooden motor boat that took the family fishing and boating in San Francisco Bay, Half Moon Bay, and other lakes and rivers in California. Whether it be backpacking and camping in a tent or later the “modern” convenience of forest service cabins and lookouts, we filled our summers with outdoor recreation with our Doberman, Jads.

Winters found us on our yurting adventures in the Boise National Forest, Sawtooths, and Payette National Forest cross country skiing as well as our downhill adventures at Bogus Basin, McCall, Sun Valley, and various trips with the Bogus Basin Ski Club.

Bill’s sport was running. He had wings on his feet which carried him over the finish line in two marathons and numerous runs around Boise and beyond. Bill had a closet at home dedicated to T-shirts he acquired from various runs. Perhaps those will one day become a memorial quilt.

We fished a lot and filled out freezer with healthy food for the winter. We fished “catch and release”. Bill’s favorite expression was “catch and release into the frying pan”.

WILLIAM E. AUGUSTINE

Square submitted by: Gail M. Baccheschi
LEARN MORE

We hope this quilt spreads the hope, mission, and love shared by the many that have been touched by donation.

For more information about organ, tissue, and eye donation please visit [www.yesidaho.org](http://www.yesidaho.org)

To schedule a speaker, or request materials, please email [info@yesidaho.org](mailto:info@yesidaho.org)

If you’re interested in becoming a volunteer with Yes Idaho!, please contact them at [1-801-521-1755](tel:1-801-521-1755) or email [info@yesidaho.org](mailto:info@yesidaho.org).

Many volunteer opportunities are available through Intermountain Donor Services (IDS), a federally designated organ procurement organization. Public education is crucial to the mission and volunteers are an integral part of this effort. IDS is able to provide new volunteers with basic training on an ongoing basis, so volunteers can get started as soon as they’d like.