

Organ and tissue donation have become a large part of Laura and Daniel's life. Diagnosed with a rare auto-immune disorder at the age of 12, Daniel has struggled with health crises for most of his life. In 2013, he received a bone-marrow transplant at the Health Sciences Centre. Due to complications from that, he received a lung transplant in Edmonton in February of this year.

Only three years into marriage, they are very grateful at the second and third chances they have been given for a healthy life together. Their story is so much more than Daniel's illness. It is filled with quiet memories: walks through Assiniboine Park to meet each other, writing letters in a notebook to each other during times they were apart, enjoying food, talking about books, movies and what makes a good story.

Their experiences with organ donation have led them in different paths than they had originally planned. Daniel is more determined than ever to finish his engineering degree at the University of Manitoba and put it to use creating and designing innovative technology to help others.

Laura is now a part of our team at the Lung Association, working to create a future filled with healthy breathing for all Manitobans. All of this is possible because of the generosity of donors and their families who were able to look past themselves and their grief in order to change the lives of a complete stranger. Daniel and Laura's story emphasizes the importance of becoming an organ donor and the impact you can have on someone else's life once yours is over.

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