

Dear NAME,

I will never forget the look on my sons' faces when the ER doctor told us the CT scan showed a 15 cm mass in my brain. As a single parent, I was petrified – not just for my future, but for my boys as well. I am all they have.

I underwent two brain surgeries to remove the tumor, followed by 42 days of radiation and chemotherapy. Pathology revealed I had glioblastoma, a common, yet highly aggressive and fast-growing type of cancer, with an average life expectancy of 14 to 16 months. Doctors suggested that I get my affairs in order and make plans for my boys' future.

Knowing how much I had to live for and seeing how remarkably well I had responded after the surgeries, my previous doctor recommended I see Dr. Deborah Heros, a neurologist at UHealth – University of Miami Health System. Right away, she lived up to her name. Her wisdom and compassion gave me hope when I was at my darkest point, and she truly became a hero for me and my family.

UHealth has one of the top 25 Neurology/Neurosurgery programs in the country, as ranked by U.S. News & World Report. From the moment I met Dr. Heros, I knew I was in good hands. She was extremely knowledgeable, yet also so patient and caring. I never felt like a number; rather, she treated me like I was her

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only patient. I don't know how she does it, but it meant the world to me.

That was over two years ago. I can confidently say that I am here today – and thriving – because of Dr. Deborah Heros. She enrolled me in a clinical trial for an experimental therapeutic drug at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, part of UHealth - University of Miami Health System, and the results have been phenomenal. My tumor has shrunk to the point of being almost undetectable in my last MRI. She literally had to point out the



little dot because I couldn't see anything. I will be forever grateful to Dr. Heros.

March 30th is National Doctors' Day. Please join me in this celebration by honoring your UHealth physician. Making a gift in your doctor's name allows UHealth physicians to continue to pursue groundbreaking research, provide exceptional patient care and find lifechanging discoveries to transform health care. Thanking your doctor is easy – simply fill out the enclosed reply card.

Is there a UHealth physician you are grateful for? Please join me by making a gift and sending a message to honor your doctor today.

With gratitude,

Christopher Del Spina Patient of Dr. Deborah Heros

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