

TUSHAR SHAH

From: Go4pork@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 11:48 PM
To: tushar.shah@mac.com
Subject: Fwd: Dr. Tushar Shah, MD

Laura Richardson

Begin forwarded message:

From: Don Richardson <07sgmrich@gmail.com>
Date: August 28, 2019 at 9:33:35 PM CDT
To: Laura Cell <Go4pork@aol.com>
Subject: Fwd: Dr. Tushar Shah, MD

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Don Richardson <07sgmrich@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 28, 2019 at 9:32 PM
Subject: Dr. Tushar Shah, MD
To: <roberto.bolli@louisville.edu>

To: Dr. Roberto Bolli, MD, Chief, Division Of Cardiovascular Medicine

From: Laura and Don Richardson

Dear Dr. Bolli: Laura was a patient in University of Iowa Hospitals off and on in 2016 and 2017 with heart disease and heart failure along with renal failure due to sarcoidosis. She had already listed for heart and kidney transplant at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester in 2014 and U of I in 2015 and her condition slowly worsened.

We met Dr. Shah in 2016 when she was admitted in U of I Hospital. Dr. SHah was one of her treating physicians and made an immediate impact on Laura. Though he had just met her, he took the time to learn about her long history of sarcoidosis and heart disease which began in 2009 and always referred to that when he discussed her care and treatment plan.

Laura had already met an uncountable number of doctors by this time, but her rapport with Dr. Shah was immediately evident to me as her caregiver. His concern, care and compassion for Laura--as both a sick patient, and a determined farm girl who was going to beat her illness--was at a level higher than almost all others.

I appreciated his care for Laura, but I appreciated more his candor with me on her current condition, the immediate concerns, her prognosis to survive and get to transplant, and the medical options to consider. He was thoughtful, a team player and very well informed on the standards of care Laura was receiving. The last was a relief to me as I was very concerned that we should have transported Laura to Mayo in Rochester as her condition became more complicated.

Ultimately, Dr. Shah and the U of I team recommended that Laura go to a more active transplant center so he assisted in contacting and arranging for Laura to medevac to the Mayo Clinic Hospital in Phoenix in 2017. Though her journey continued for another 18 months we are happy to say that Laura received her heart and kidney the day after Christmas last year.

As mentioned, Laura has received care from an unknown number of doctors and nurse practitioners in the past ten years. Without any time needed to think about it, Dr. Shah is the only specialist who has continued to monitor her condition and her well-being through the contacts he arranged with us before we flew out of Iowa City. He continually checked in with us to check on her health and also her mental well-being, especially after her heart stoppage and near death experience in the winter of 2017. It was truly a joyous moment for us when Laura was able to call him after she received her new heart and kidney and was out of recovery.

We don't know how else to say it, but are so Thankful that Dr. Shah crossed paths with Laura and became part of the incredible team who helped save Laura's life and give her a new life, and became a friend through it all.

Respectfully,

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