

THE 2022 DONATE LIFE FLOAT



ABOUT THE FLOAT:

Since 2004, the Donate Life Rose Parade® float has inspired people across the country and around the world to save and heal lives with the powerful message of organ, tissue and cornea donation. The 2022 Rose Parade theme, “Dream. Believe. Achieve.” celebrates the ability of education to open doors, open minds and change lives.

The 2022 Donate Life Rose Parade® float, *Courage to Hope*, showcases the courage shown by donor families, living donors and those waiting on a transplant, represented by the winged lion of Piazza San Marco (or Saint Mark's Square) in Venice, Italy. The majestic lion holds a book representing both donor families and grateful recipients' knowledge about the importance of saying **"YES"** to donation.

Organ, tissue and cornea donation offers hope to donor families, who see the chance to believe their loved ones' gifts will help save others in the midst of losing a loved one. At the same time, those waiting to receive a lifesaving organ have the dream and the courage to hope that a donor's gift will become available to restore their health and change their lives. They can now achieve their life goals, all thanks to their donors.

The float is adorned with florigraphs representing donor heroes from across the nation.

WHAT IS A FLORAGRAPH?

A florigraph is a portrait of a deceased organ, tissue or cornea donor created with organic materials such as spices, seeds and flowers.



2022 FLORAGRAPH HONOREE



Levell Pace

Tissue and cornea donor
Mishawaka, IN

HUSBAND. BROTHER. UNCLE. POLICE OFFICER. HERO. DONOR.

LEVELL'S STORY

Looking for the good in others came naturally to Levell Kevin Pace. Armed with a ready smile, Levell would give you the last five dollars out of his wallet if you needed it. This spirit of giving carried over into everything he did, from serving his community as a police officer to signing up as an organ and tissue donor. Levell, who had diabetes and ailing kidneys, suffered a fatal heart attack at age 34 while waiting on a lifesaving kidney transplant. While he never received his transplant, he gave lifesaving gifts to others through tissue and cornea donation.

Levell graduated from Jimtown High School in Elkhart, Indiana, where he played football and cultivated a lifelong love of the sport. After high school, Levell worked various jobs until he became a security guard at Indiana University South Bend and discovered his life's calling — becoming a police officer. Around campus, Levell was known for always going above and beyond to answer the call.

Levell and his wife Melissa were married in October 2001. He shared with Melissa his love of movies, fishing, and his dogs, Vegas and Miranda. Together, they enjoyed camping, hiking and spending time with their niece and nephews. Melissa says Levell brought her out of her shell while she inspired him to focus on his health.

Levell was diagnosed with end-stage renal disease in 2002 and needed a kidney transplant. He was about to be placed on the national transplant waiting list when he suddenly lost his life. His legacy lives on through those he helped as a tissue and cornea donor.

