



Kyles Heart Foundation

Giving from the heart to help others

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Change of Heart... Change Our Hearts

The Kyle's Heart Foundation Director, Carl Hunlock, made his way to West Chester, Ohio (just north of Cincinnati) to meet up with his dear friends Jack and Diane Hunt at the Change of Heart Holiday party in December. Change of Heart was founded as a way for heart recipients, future recipients, and their families to come together in support of one another.

The holiday party made for an interesting fun filled event with good food, great conversation, and heart-warming Christmas music performed by a talented one man band. This year's Christmas gift exchange made for much excitement since ALL participants could steal from others. In years past, only heart recipients had the option, but this year was a free for all which made for a long afternoon. A warm fuzzy blanket, Yankee candle set, Christmas decorations for the mantle, and even a Clapper were among the wanted. The same few fought long and hard and in the end came out victorious.

But in all seriousness, it was an honor to be present at this event, to be among friends and share the warmth that could be felt in the room. Each individual has a story, a story in which was changed by organ donation which brought a renewed hope to their lives. Many stories were shared that day about chance meetings to life-long friendships that resulted in marriage, second changes at life to be able to support their loved ones, and many more. It was even shared with us that Jack and Diane have been happily married for 25 years and Jack continues to be a long-time supporter and volunteer at Mercy Health. However we also saw the faces of those awaiting heart transplants and their families which reiterate the need for more individuals to become eye, organ, and tissue donors.

We all have a story. How we write that story is up to us. We have the ability to "Change our hearts to change our lives to change the world."



Ten Years of Heart and Still Beating Strong



Team Kyle's Heart made their way to the Cincinnati, Ohio Riverfront on March 13th for the Cincinnati Heart Mini. We walked down memory lane reminiscing that five years ago, the temperature was 38 degrees, cold wet, and snowy. This year, though in the mid-high sixties, the skies were gray and cloudy. As we approached the starting line, we felt the light drops of rain that eventually became a mild steady downpour. However, Captain Jack Hunt lead the charge and we made our way through the streets of Downtown proudly representing Kyle's Heart for the 10th year in a row.

Team Kyle's Heart had 41 participants sign up this year raising \$2,065. Friends and family from Michigan, Kentucky, South Carolina, and various parts of Ohio made up our team. Though not everyone could make it to the event, we were honored by all who signed up to support our cause

and the American Heart Association. This year we had a few runners on our team who completed the 5K Heart Race while the rest of us preferred a nice walk. During the walk, people shared in conversation, laughter, and smiles bringing forth what life is truly all about, the celebration of life-long friendships and family; compassion, heart, and faith.

We are grateful that so many continue to uphold the Kyle's Heart Foundation's mission in helping others and blessed by our dear friend Jack Hunt who continues to be an inspiration in serving his local community and Mercy Health. Recently Mercy Health performed a heart transplant, and Jack was front and center in being an advocate and support to their newest heart recipient. Both are bonded and forever changed by generosity and heart.

Ten years of heart and forever beating strong.