



Blood Donor Becomes Recipient and Ever So Grateful for Kindness of Others Like Him

By Sam Kennedy

When George Patchen of Washington Township, Northampton County, became a regular blood donor, he never thought his kindness toward others would come full circle. However, in April, after Patchen, 65, had surgery on his prostate at St. Luke's Hospital's Anderson Campus, he needed a blood transfusion to ensure his recovery.

Bloodwork had shown his red blood count was low, so Patchen was given two units of blood.

Patchen remained in the hospital longer than he anticipated because of his need for blood. He stayed three nights rather than just the one he thought he would. But all went well, and Patchen is grateful that he was able to get the blood he needed when he needed it without any problem.

Patchen said he had donated not only blood but also platelets regularly for a few years prior to his diagnosis of prostate cancer.

"It was something I could do to help others," he said. Little did he know that someday soon he was going to be one of who needed the help of other donors like himself.

Having seen both sides of blood donations, Patchen would encourage people "if they are able to donate blood when they can." Recipients, he said, are very grateful that blood is available for them in their time of need. And donating, he said, is just a matter of giving a little of your time -- and blood.

St. Luke's, a founding member of Miller-Keystone over 50 years ago, continues its unwavering commitment as the only local health care network that identifies MKBC as its primary blood supplier. Without St. Luke's steadfast support for MKBC, the Lehigh Valley could run out of the blood necessary to

Save big this Fall.

Unlock exclusive discounts with cash or check payments!
Flexible financing options also available.



Hilltop Sales & Service

BANGOR, PA
158 Falcone Rd.
(610) 588-4088

HilltopSales.com



Dyle E. Bray Home Association
202 Washington Blvd. Bangor Pa.
610-588-5555



Live Bluegrass Music

2nd Sunday of the Month
Noon to 5pm

Pickers Welcome
www.afbawindgap.org