

Herbert H. Hoffner  
Lawrence, New York 11559

*To a Transplant Nurse:*

*I first developed angina in 1975. In subsequent years, I underwent two coronary artery bypass procedures, several myocardial infarctions, and intermittent arrhythmias. In December 1992, after hospitalization for congestive heart failure, I developed episodes of cardiac arrest from which I was successfully resuscitated. I was transferred to Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center and underwent surgical placement of a left ventricular assist device.*

*During a long and stormy hospital course, the attentive and competent nursing care was a vital factor in my survival. Without going into the specifics of the problems that arose, some of them were formidable and, at times, the outlook was bleak.*

*On August 18, 1993, I received a heart transplant. I am now 75 years of age, the father of four, grandfather of five, and a retired ophthalmologist. I am forever grateful to the donor family and have written to them. I know that without the wonderful medical and nursing care I received, my life could not have been saved and prolonged. I appreciate all that was done for me and thank all of you nurses for what you do to help so many of us on a daily basis.*

*Sincerely*

*Herbert H. Hoffner*