

Miracles Happen; Betterment Helps.
The Story of Cherie O'Brian Rogers; Hammond, NY



[Cherie O'Brian Rogers](#) was unexpectedly diagnosed with end stage liver disease, over six years ago—with little to no hope in finding a suitable *living* liver donor. For years on end, the Rogers' family reached out to close family and friends, as well as [absolute strangers](#), to try to find a match for organ donation.

For those of you who do not know Cherie, she and her husband (Dean) own and operate a cottage business on Black Lake. Dean is a local (lifelong) contractor in Hammond as well. They both feel very blessed to have witnessed their son, Brad, marry Cassie Cunningham in June of last year.

Cherie's biggest, and only wish, after being diagnosed is to see, and hold, her grand-babies. However, time seemed to be running out very quickly. She had been in and out of hospital battling this horrible illness with no end in sight. Fortunately, her husband Dean has been right by her side and advocated for her to go to Tampa, Florida in search

of a miracle. The success rates for donations and transplants are *much higher* there vs. New York.

With her health deteriorating so quickly, they were left with no choice. On April 13th, 2016 – after six years of waiting and only two months in Florida – Cherie finally received a liver Transplant!! This is truly nothing less than a miracle. Her path to full recovery however continues slowly as she is battling many side effects and issues from this major surgery. Please continue to keep Cherie and Dean in your prayers.

How is Cherie's Story connected to Betterment?

Out of pure generosity, Cherie's family donated a weekend stay at their cottage business to our [Chippewa Bay Poker Run - Paddle for a Purpose](#) last year. This was one of our top adult prizes! It was our absolute pleasure to be able – in turn – to support Cherie's journey to Florida in finding a suitable liver donor this winter. We were able to provide \$500 worth travel expense support for her and her husband Dean.

It is also a goal of Cherie's to help raise awareness for [Organ Donation](#). We hope our support is able to see that goal through! By supporting worthy causes such as the Paddle for a Purpose and helping people in their time of need, the ripple effect of goodness does not go ignored.

Eighteen (18) people die every day — every day — waiting for an organ. Inconceivably, that's the equivalent of my entire high school graduating class at Hammond Central School. If everyone would donate their organs upon death it would keep many alive. But need for partial organs (from living donors) is greatly needed, too. This would keep many more people alive. The liver is a remarkable organ. Like a starfish, it regenerates. Cleave it in two, and within eight weeks, it's nearly regrown to its former size. **That biological bit of trivia saved our friend's life!**

Follow Cherie's Journey on Facebook by searching: [Cherie Needs a Liver Donor](#)