

Giving one's body for others to learn is something that I had never really thought much about until I came to medical school and needed to gain a full understanding of human anatomy. I am very grateful for the opportunity to learn this critical knowledge for becoming a doctor. To the loved ones and family member of the donor, I know it can be quite difficult to lose someone we care about, and I'm sorry for your loss. In a sense, this individual was my very first patient, and thanks to them, I learned more than I had ever imagined. Thank you very much.

Our donors have provided me and my classmates with an unparalleled opportunity that is absolutely invaluable to our training as future physicians. It quickly becomes evident in learning anatomy that the best teacher available is our donor. I cannot express enough gratitude for the thoughtfulness of their donation and know that in doing so they have provided essential training for many students.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for such a wonderful and rare opportunity. Your life was a blessing, your death was a gift, and learning from you was a great honor. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

This final, incredibly generous act of donating one's body for the betterment of medical education is one of the most invaluable contributions that one can make. The opportunity to cohesively and tangibly apply anatomy lecture material to a body was a keystone in my understanding and learning of structure and development. My deepest thanks and respect goes out to the families of the donors.

On the first day of anatomy lab, I recall Dr. Puche telling the class that our donors would be our greatest teachers in medical school. At the time, I didn't realize how true these words were. Looking back on the course, I realize that my success can be attributed mostly to our donors. I spent hours at home, studying images of structures in my anatomy atlases but it wasn't until I came to the lab that I truly grasped the concepts and fully understood the location and function of the structures. As the course progressed, I found myself spending ever-increasing amounts of time within the lab with the donors because by working with them I gained a level of comprehension that I do not believe would have been possible without them. As I recall the many epiphanies I had in lab, I feel compelled to express my gratitude to the donors and their families. The donors' selfless gift to donate their bodies is one I am truly grateful for. By donating, their selfless act not only enhanced my understanding of human anatomy, but also will enable me to provide care for future patients. As an M.D., I will attribute my success in understanding my patients' conditions and treating them to our donors. Their gift does not only enhance the the students' education, but also translates into our ability to provide excellent care to our future patients. I'm immensely grateful that their gift will not only aid us, the students, but thousands of others.

I just wanted to take the time to thank you and your family for affording me the opportunity to enhance my education by your generous anatomic gift. The experience and skills we were able to take away from our time in lab were invaluable, and will stay with throughout our medical career.

I cannot tell you how much I appreciate what your family member has done for me. Simply put, there is absolutely no way I could have learned the anatomy of the body in such detail without the donor. Not a chance. I know and understand that you, whom are reading this now is still mourning the loss of your loved one, and I want to offer my sincerest condolences. I do, however, want you to know how

appreciative I am. To me, this knowledge is a sacred gift that I will use as a foundation for my medical career going forward. Please know that something truly good can and has come of your loved one's decision to donate. I will do my best to help and serve others going forward and I want to thank you and your loved one for helping me become a doctor. Again, please accept my sincerest condolences. God bless. Sincerely, Christopher Chanock Medical Candidate University of Maryland 2018

Since I have been on campus at University of Maryland, it has been constantly impressed upon me how anatomy serves as the foundation for all of medicine. I genuinely have no idea how I would have learned anatomy without help from my donor. Working with my donor, I am confident that I have a firm foundation for my future medical education and practice.

I cannot begin to describe how thankful I am for the opportunity to learn from your loved one. She expanded my knowledge in a way that no textbook or electronic ever resource could, and I will always think back to what I have learned from her throughout my career as a physician. My sincere condolences for your loss.

Words can't express my gratitude for my patient during anatomy lab. I am a visual learner and time spent in the lab with my patient was invaluable to my learning experience and really helped me to understand anatomy in 3-D. My patient taught me more than any book could and I am forever grateful for their sacrifice.

Thank you very much! Anatomy lab really solidified my understanding of the human body and I couldn't have done it without your generous donation.

Thank you for the opportunity to study anatomy through your donor. I learned a tremendous amount which will be beneficial to my future patients. Your donor was one of my first teachers. Thank you again for your support!

Thank you to you and your loved one. Their gift of donation has allowed for the education of future medical professionals who will undoubtedly have a collective impact on hundreds of thousands of individuals in the future.

I am so thankful for the donors, and have learned so much from them. Their willingness to attribute to my education in the utmost way possible is truly a gift that I will cherish.

Thank you for contributing so much to my education. My understanding of the body, of life, is so enhanced because of your generosity. May we all learn something about the meaning and value of giving from your gift.

I greatly appreciate the donor and his family and friends for providing my lab group the opportunity to learn human anatomy. It is a true honor to learn about the human body in such an intimate way, and I know we will all be better doctors from this experience. Thank you!

Hello, My name is Graham and I am a first year medical student. For the past ten weeks, I, along with four other students, have had the honor and privilege to work with your family member. He has guided

us, taught us, and shown us things I could never imagine without seeing them with my own eyes. I am deeply grateful for the experience your family member provided us. Your generous gift of donation has been pivotal in shaping the foundations of my medical career. I hope to honor that by using the knowledge I have learned from him throughout my future practice. I have been so personally inspired by my experience working with your family member that I have decided I will donate my body as well at the end of my life, to give to others the way he gave to us. Thank you again. You have helped myself and others more than you can ever know. Best wishes, Graham

I just wanted to say thank you for the amazingly generous gift of donating your body. I can't even put into words how thankful I am that you chose to do this. There were so many times I struggled to understand a concept from lecture or a textbook, but being able to see it in person made it so much more clear, and helped me understand so much more. It really means a lot that you chose to be so generous and I know that your donation will end up helping so many more people than just me because of how helpful it was to me in my understanding of the human body. I want to spend my life helping patients and teaching others interested in health professions, so indirectly you will be helping all those people, and all the people those people go on to help. Thanks again.

Thank you very much for your generous donation to our anatomy class here at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine. We greatly appreciate the donation and have learned a lot from this opportunity that you have been able to provide for us. Thank you again for everything.

Words cannot express how thankful I am for having the privilege of learning so much from the donor. Your generosity is so very appreciated. I will always remember this experience, and it was truly invaluable in my learning of anatomy. I really cannot thank the families enough.

As an aspiring physician, I have become particularly cognizant of the importance of a quality medical education. In Maryland, we're fortunate to have many resources available to achieve this goal--a nationally acclaimed medical school and hospital, research labs and opportunities, books, computers, and world-class instructors. But the resource at the center of this knowledge is the anatomic gift program. By donating to science and contributing to medical education of physicians, your family members has not only exemplified the importance of an excellent understanding of anatomy and medical science, but they've also demonstrated one of the most important qualities in humanity: compassion through selflessness. Please know that the compassionate selflessness displayed by your loved one will undoubtedly save thousands of lives in the future. While they are not on this earth with us, their influence will carry forward through the healing hands of the physician that they've helped educate. To you and your loved ones -- thank you! Warmest, A future (and sincerely grateful) physician

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity - without it, we could not have learned and appreciated the beauty and complexity of the human body. I personally am so grateful for your selflessness and hope that I may be able to touch the lives of others through medicine in the future, which could not have been without your donation.

Thank you so much for allowing us to learn from this donation you've made.

The donor was definitely where I learned the most in anatomy. I would encourage everyone to donate if they have the opportunity. There is nothing that can substitute for a real donor to aid the in medical education of an anatomy student. I would love to thank the family and the donor for their donation.

The wonderful gentleman that donated his body for our lab group, gave me the gift of learning. It was a wonderful experience to have the privilege of looking inside his body and understanding the design of our bodies and how they work. It was a blessing that I will never forget.

Thank you so much for your amazing donation, it helped me so much.

Thank you so much for being a part of the donor program! I learned so much this semester and it wouldn't have been possible without you. I look forward to meeting you in the spring!

I want to thank the donors for teaching us anatomy over the last 10 weeks, and helping us visualize all of the intricate structures in the body.

I wanted a chance to express my sympathies and appreciation to your family. First let me say I am so sorry for your loss. Also, thank you so much for your contribution to my medical education. I have learned so much from her and I know I will be a better physician for the role she played in my education. Thank you.

Dear Donor Family, I would like to express my appreciation for the donation that your generous family member has made. Her donation has made a great impact on my medication education. May she rest in peace, and I pray for your family. Thank you.

Dear Family and Friends, I cannot begin to express my gratitude for your loved one. I hope that this letter can in some small way convey the experience of anatomy lab and the great impact that your loved one has made on my medical education and me as a person. The experience of bonding with the donor can be conflicting in several ways. While I have learned a great deal about him in the past two months, I wish I knew his name and more about his life and dreams. Through his body, sometimes he let us discover clues about the experiences he might have had, but always left us fascinated by his great accomplishment of living to the age of 104 years. We wished we could have the chance to ask him how he lived his life, but are grateful for the gift he gave us to explore it physically. Often times I also found myself hesitant to truly understand his body because I wished to do no harm to my first patient, but I also wanted to fulfill his wishes of learning as much as I can through this unique opportunity so that I can deliver the best care to my all my future patients. I made it a commitment everyday to think about the gift he was giving me and my fellow lab members. Every time we learned something, I thought about how proud he would be, and every time we felt like giving up, I reminded myself of his sacrifice so that we could keep trying and not let him down. He truly was the most important part of our team, and I am forever indebted to him. Please know that I will always remember this experience and hold it closely in my heart. Sincerely, Tiffany Yu M.D. Candidate 2018 University of Maryland School of Medicine

Our donors were an invaluable source of information and insight into the human body. We have been deeply honored and humbled to have had this opportunity with our donor.

Thank you for your selfless donation. I have learned so much from you that I will never forget.

Thank you so much for your donation. You have taught five people an incredible amount about the human body and what it can do. I wish I could have gotten to speak with you so I could let you know that your gift will not be forgotten.

Our group learned more about anatomy from our donor, than we did from any other resource. More than that, I feel that I should thank all of our donors for having taught me more about myself as a person. I am extremely grateful for our donor. She has made all the difference in my medical school experience.

Thank you very much for allowing us the opportunity to truly learn the human body for our Medical School course. We are truly grateful and appreciate this kind act. Thank you, and we promise to utilize this knowledge to further aid us on our journey to become the best physicians we can be.

I am grateful for their amazing gift towards my medical education. This is contribution that I will appreciate for the rest of my life. .. Thank you.

I am so grateful to the donors for being so generous with their bodies. My classmates and I learned so much by studying from their bodies, and I am sure that the anatomy that we learned from this experience will allow us to become more informed and knowledgeable physicians. I believe that it will also allow us to become more compassionate doctors who understand the beauty and uniqueness of the human body. Each donor's body was different from another donor's body, just as each donor had a personality and life history that was different from other people's. I hope that the donors can rest in peace now.

Thank you for letting us learn anatomy from your family member.

To the Family of our Donor, I want to begin by sincerely thanking you for permitting us to work with your loved one and extending my condolences for your loss. Our learning experience in anatomy, the first step in our medical careers, was unquestionably enriched by your generosity and sacrifice. Although his name was not shared with us, it was humbling to work everyday with him everyday and I can assure you the I will never forget him, his sacrifice, and what he taught me. Thank you

I would just like to send my condolences to the family of our donor. She was a great body and we treated her with all the respect she deserves. Her donation was extremely beneficial and I am extremely grateful to her and her family.

I am really grateful to the donor and the family and friends of the donor. There is no way I could have learned this much anatomy in this short amount of time, if it were not for the donor. I am thankful that he was able to take such a step to help me in my medical career. I am always going to remember him as my best teacher and my first patient.

I would like to thank our donor and her family for giving us the opportunity to learn in a dynamic way that is made possible because of her body and that could not have been achieved in any other way. I greatly appreciate it

I really appreciate it for having an opportunity to work with your family member.

I appreciate your kindness and generosity in donating to this program. The learning I received from you will last me for my entire career. Thank you.

Words cannot express how thankful and appreciative I am for the anatomic gift from my donor. Had it not been for my donor, I would not be able to learn anatomy, and would not be able to become the best future doctor that I could be. The donors are the most important part of anatomy and I know mine helped me learn through his sacrifice and that experience is something that will be with me for the rest of my life.

Thank you so much for your donation to science that has proven invaluable to my education. I could not have learned as much as I have without you and I will always remember you as both my first teacher and patient. Your gift has helped our entire class to become more knowledgeable doctors who will be better equipped to save the lives of others. I thank you again and will always strive to improve to become the best physician that I can be!

It was such an honor to have learned the structure of the human body by examining the body of the donors. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity and learned an incredible amount.

I greatly appreciate my donor. He was teacher I could have had for anatomy, and I will never forget him.

Thank you so much for your contribution to my medical education. There is no way I could have learned anatomy without this incredible gift. We loved and respected our donor and we could not have been more grateful. Thank you so much!

I cannot thank you enough for giving us this amazing opportunity to learn and study anatomy. Being able to study our donor greatly enhanced my understanding of anatomy. I will always be grateful for their generosity and the impact they had on my medical education.

Thank you much for allowing us to learn from her during our medical training. The information my team and I were able to learn was invaluable and out have been impossible without her. Thank you again.

Both of my grandparents donated their bodies to medical schools. I never understood what that meant, until now. I have learned so much from my donor, she was essential to my learning and when I take a moment to think about her willingness to give of her body in this way...I am overwhelmed with gratefulness. The human body is truly wonderfully made and its value does not end with death. To all the families and friends of our donors, please know that we are sobered by the privileged of learning from your loved ones.

It is impossible to thank the donors and their families enough. The laboratory course has had an invaluable impact on my education.

Anatomic donors make the ultimate gift to medical students and future doctors. There is truly no better way to learn anatomy. The gift of one person enables many future physicians to prevent and treat illnesses in an even greater number of patients. In addition, the donors bring humanity to this part of the learning process. By studying from a donor, I am reminded that what I am learning from this person, I can also see and use for the patients I will encounter later on. Lastly, no two people are completely the same. Therefore, there are important clinical correlates that I learned from my donor that I would not have learned from anyone else. I am incredibly thankful to my donor for giving me the opportunity to form the basis of my medical practice that I will carry with me forever.

I want to give my thanks to your family who had such a large part in my anatomy training this year-- I have always been a "hands-on" kind of person, and I always had problems listening and fully understanding something. My anatomy knowledge is in no small part due to the body I was dissecting. I would not love anatomy or know as much about the human body if I did not get such an opportunity-- again, thank you, your family, and the person who selflessly donated her body. It was a selfless deed to donate herself so knowledge could be passed on-- even after death, she made a difference.

Thank you to the family and friends of our donor. Although I did not know her in life, at many times it felt like so much of her life was shared with us as we learned about the human body and explored her body, in particular. The experience has been extraordinary and enlightening and I am truly grateful for the opportunity given by this donation.

As a son and brother, I know how difficult it must be to lose a sibling or parent regardless of their age or the circumstances of their passing. However, as medical students, we just want you to know how much we value the sacrifice of your family member, and for the opportunity that we had to treat them as our first real patient. Through these last few months, we were able to navigate the vast complexities of human anatomy, and none of our knowledge or understanding could have been possible without the generosity of your family member. On behalf of all the students, instructors, and staff members at the University of Maryland, we extend our deepest condolences to your family and want to thank your family member for giving themselves so that we can be better doctors for the future.

The time that I have spent with the donor that was provided to me was like nothing else I've experienced before. I have come to know the anatomy of this body so well, yet I know almost nothing about her as a person. I would love to know why she decided to donate her body, what she did, and the kind of person she was. These are things I will wonder about for a long time to come. I will always be incredibly grateful for the gift and the knowledge she gave my classmates and me. I would also like to thank the families of all the donors for supporting their decision to donate. Your loved ones have made an immeasurable impact on the future careers of many medical professionals who will save and improve the lives of countless people. Their donations are gifts that will never be forgotten.

I cannot thank the donors enough for their generosity. To donate one's body is such an intimate act, and we have the utmost respect for the joys, the sorrows, and the lives of the individuals who have donated.

Their generosity has been an absolutely invaluable resource for my and my classmates' medical education, and will surely contribute to the health of countless patients and communities in the future. We will carry the lessons the donors have taught us throughout our medical careers with reverence, appreciation, and purpose. We are incredibly indebted to them.

I greatly appreciate the gift that your loved one has given us. He allowed us to learn anatomy from more than simply a textbook. We will carry this knowledge into our future careers and use it to provide excellent care for patients. Thank you very much for your support, and we are again extremely grateful for your loved one's gift.

Thank you so much. She was a great guide and an invaluable part of anatomy course. Thanks again.

I really feel blessed and grateful for the gift that our donor has given. I really don't think that I could have learned everything that I have without the gift of our donor. I think it takes a lot of courage and a lot of forethought to donate your body for study. I really appreciate all that I have learned and am so happy to have had this experience. I am most definitely attending the cremation ceremony

I cannot express how grateful I am for the opportunity to learn about the human body through the anatomic gift. Thank you for your contribution to my education.

Dear kind family and friends, I want to express thanks and appreciation to you for the anatomic donation made to the Structure and Development course at the University of Maryland. The gift made by your family was invaluable to us as medical students. Thank you for your donation.

Thank you very much, he was an integral an important part of our medical education that we will never forget.

I am entirely grateful for the anatomic gift that was donated to advance my medical education. The donor was my first patient and I will always remember and appreciate that as I see patients later on in my career.