A Selfless Value
by Meagan Maciel, Midwest Transplant Network

Kevin Calhoun was a young man living a normal life before he was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy. After managing his health for several years with diet and exercise, he got to the point where even the simplest activities were a challenge. Things most of us take for granted, like home projects, visiting friends and working as a diesel mechanic became too difficult. That all changed when Kevin received the gift of a heart transplant in May 2015.

Since his transplant, Kevin has had many opportunities to spread the word about the importance of donation by volunteering with Midwest Transplant Network’s Ambassador Program. He is a gifted speaker and enjoys engaging with the community. He graciously honors his donor hero in all of his outreach efforts. He has traveled to Spain to participate in the World Transplant Games as part of Team MO-KAN.

“Because someone saw the selfless value in being an organ donor, I’ve been able to live so much more in the past two years than I have so many years before,” said Kevin. “My donor and I have traveled to new lands together. We’ve formed many new friendships and strengthened existing ones, we’ve helped loved ones, and have participated in so many different aspects of life. Together, we will continue to spread awareness for the gift of donation and being able to live on through others.”