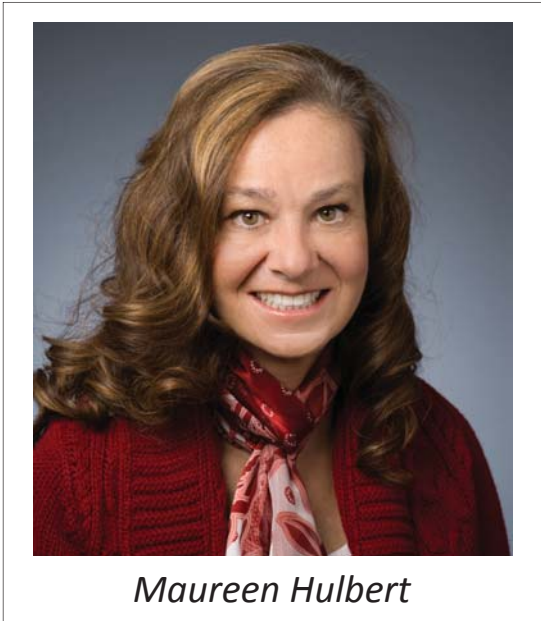


Volunteering



Kindness
should be
Maureen's
middle name.

A Daughter's Gift - A Mother's Second Chance

by Tammy Rock, GOL Educator

Maureen Hulbert retired from a Grandview Missouri elementary school after 31 years. During her tenure, it never occurred to her that she would become a living kidney donor to her mother. When Eniz became sick, Maureen aided with her care. She donated a kidney to her 80 year old mother and never looked back. Though Maureen comes from a large family, she felt she was the best family member candidate to donate a kidney. She completed the evaluation at Research Medical Center in Kansas City and indeed she was a perfect match for her mom. The transplant occurred in 2007 and Maureen's students learned about living donation as she took steps towards her gift of life.

Maureen now volunteers with Gift of Life, a nonprofit in Kansas City. She shares her story in high school classrooms so students can experience firsthand the success of living donation. She shows a photo of her kidney that was donated to her mom as it rests in the surgeon's palm. She explains to the students that she has had no complications from the surgery and that her mom gained eight years of life. She travels internationally and is very active in her church community. After learning her 18 year old friend was in need of a kidney, Maureen said "If I had another kidney to give, I would. I would do it all over again." Kindness should be Maureen's middle name.

“If I had another kidney to give, I would. I would do it all over again.”