



The Last Word Okay

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“Tzu Chi and I are looking for someone, that person can be you!”

These words from movie star Jackie Chen deeply engraved in Chung Su-Jay’s mind.

“If it’s possible, I want to be a person to save others,” said Su-Jay who was only 19 years old when he first attended the bone marrow stem cells database registry held by Tzu Chi Stem Cells Center volunteers. Accompanied by his classmates, he not only registered for bone marrow donation, but also signed up for organ donation for the other activity held there.

19 Years Later, Filial Piety Act for His Father

He never thought the news of successful bone marrow stem cells match came after another 19 years. At the time, his father was diagnosed with



His father is Chung Su-Jay’s hero. With his father’s permission, he completed the wish of marrow stem cells donation as his father’s good deed. On the other hand, he wanted to save a life. Photo: Su-Jay and his father

terminal cancer. He did not want to worry his parents, and only let his brother know and earned his brother’s support. Thus, he proceeded with his second evaluation and physical examination. To donate marrow stem cells, one needs to get a series of injections of G-CSF. Originally, it was supposed to get all injections at a local Taipei hospital near his work place. In the meanwhile, his father’s condition worsened so he had to be back to Pintung. This was a shock to everyone

including the Tzu Chi marrow stem cells donation support team volunteers, as well as the administrative team of Tzu Chi Stem Cells Center.

Chung Su-Jay said his father suddenly appeared to have jaundice, the last stage of liver cancer. Doctor said he only had three months to live. At the same time, Su-Jay received a match notice so he had to do a physical examination and preparing for bone marrow transfer. He felt like a burning candle at both ends. “I was racing with time, my dying father and the one who needed my bone marrow, both lives needed me,” Chung Su-Jay said. He noticed whenever he came home during the weekends, he saw his father struggling with his motorcycle, and needed help on the wheelchair. He felt the fragile of the human life with so much uncertainty.

“He was ailing at the time. However, Su-Jay wanted to do this to dedicate to his father.” However, impermanence came faster than expected; it came at Su-Jay first dose of white blood cell growth hormone. “He was going to stay at Tamsui to receive his first injection. He notified the volunteers at Tamsui and brought the remaining three doses to Pintung. After the fourth dose, and prior to go back to Hualien, his father’s condition deteriorated and passed away. Chung Su-Jay recalled that event in tears.

On the morning of the planned third dose of G-CSF, his father’s condition worsened. In the afternoon, Tzu Chi volunteers went to hospital to pay a visit to Su-Jay’s father. When they talked about donating the bone marrow, the father said “Okay” in his frail voice. Su-Jay heard his father said yes, so he could go ahead and helped others.

“One can set aside the physical pain, and the love to the family, follow the Budhisattva’s path to another world. In my father’s case, he was unconscious then, I could only hear him groan in pain. It was the first time that I could hear clearly his word “Okay”.

Although his father promised that he could donate bone marrow to save lives, but the restrictions because of



Accompanied by Pintung and Tamsui Tzu Chi volunteers, Chung Su-Jay was able to complete a lifesaving mission.



tradition was a dilemma. He could not leave the family and travel to Hualien to make bone marrow donation when his father just passed away. He did not know how to get permission from his family. Therefore, he told his family just two to three hours prior to his departure to Hualien. His brother did not object, so he was able to leave for two days to complete bone marrow grafting. Then he went back to Pintung to take care of the funeral. He thought that was a good way to pay respect to his father. Because of his giving, he helped other families to regain the hope of life.

The support team volunteers were concerned of Su-Jay's condition of donating marrow stem cells, but Su-Jay reassured them that he would be there according to the original plan. Therefore, he went back to Taipei to receive the white blood cell stimulating hormone and then went to Hualien to make the donation accompanied by the volunteers.

The support team member Liao Jin-Shen said, "His will to save life is so firm and touching. In general, no one would leave the family if some elders were passing. But he wished to save lives, so he insisted to go through the process."

Su-Jay originally had a business trip and could not stay long in Hualien. However, because of his father's sudden passing, he changed his original plan and stayed to receive Master Cheng

Yen's blessing for his father. The team also changed the plan and accompanied Su-Jay to his home and prayed and paid respect to his father as an expression for Tzu Chi' blessing.

A Marrow Stem Cells Donor, also A Healthy Marathon Runner

Recent years, Chung Su-Jay loves running. As long as time permits, he is in his jogging suit and running outdoor. He participated in marathon almost twice



In love with marathon, Chung Su-Jay demonstrated donating bone marrow does not hurt his health.



Chung Su-Jay participated the activity of bone marrow donation, so he personally went through the process to save life.

monthly. Someone asked him why he kept on running. He replied, “Of course, running makes me healthier. I want to prove that donating bone marrow doesn’t hurt oneself and I am still healthy.” As long as he is healthy, he can inspire more people to donate bone marrow. “After I went through this procedure, I realized the news on the Internet regarding the donation of bone marrow was incorrect and unfair. Only when one goes through this process, one can realize the truth of the donation.”

In order to support the World Marrow

Day event, Chung Su-Jay went back to his hometown for the event. He said, “The Internet is full of incorrect information. From blood test, to matching, accompanying the marrow donor, the whole procedure is to save life. The effort of Tzu Chi’s volunteers should be highly appreciated.”

Facing the dilemma of a dying father and a marrow receiver, how to balance the mentality was a big test. “I am glad that I didn’t give up anything, so I can fulfill both families.”