## **Lupus Society of Illinois**

## LUPUS WARRIOR WEDNESDAY

June 7, 2023

My name is Kim DesBiens and I was first diagnosed with SLE in 1990. I had numerous tests before the official diagnosis. I had a very tough time with my health due to lupus for decades.

In 2006, after years of serious flares and health issues due to my lupus, I received a kidney transplant with my brother Todd, being the donor.

My husband Eric and I first came to the Lupus Society of Illinois years ago as we were looking for a worthy cause to volunteer our time. Our introduction to the LSI was volunteering at the annual lupus walks. We then came to the LSI office downtown and organized rolling tee shirts for the annual walks every year. Eric created designs for the tee shirts and promotional materials as well. It was always a wonderful and meaningful time. We humbly accepted the Butterfly Award in 2014 for our volunteer efforts.

In 2018, I was named the Lupus Northern Suburbs Walk Ambassador and made a speech to all the wonderful walkers and volunteers. It was a very emotional time for me.



The Lupus Society of Illinois is instrumental in helping people with Lupus in the programs and support they offer and information and education on this chronic disease they provide. I wish them a very happy 50th Anniversary!