



**American
Red Cross**

**Communications Department
Blood Services, Penn-Jersey Region**

Musser Blood Center
700 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123-3594
phone: 215-451-4237
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www.pleasegiveblood.org

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Eileen Hovey, of Wynwood, PA is thankful that blood was available when she was in need!

The American Red Cross asks you to help save lives by giving blood during the holiday season and making blood donation a part of your regular routine



For many Americans, the holiday season means giving to loved ones and to those less fortunate. A good reason to give blood is to help save the life of someone you love. Someone in your community needs you to give blood.

Eileen Hovey of Pennsylvania will never forget the day she received a phone call that her son, Quinn, was struck by a car. Quinn was her youngest child, a six-year-old boy. Quinn was walking to his after school program with eleven other children and was hit by a driver that ran a red light. Quinn's body was thrown 65 feet in the air before landing on the cement street.

"It all happened so quickly," stated Eileen. "I recall a friend of mine calling me and admiring the gorgeous day. She was thinking 'how could anyone be having a bad day today?' "Moments later, I was experiencing the worst day of my life."

Quinn was immediately rushed to the emergency room. Doctors had prepared for Quinn's arrival by setting up a trauma room equipped with type O blood. This is the blood that is given to most trauma patients, when there is not enough time for blood typing. When Quinn arrived at the hospital, he had lost a huge amount of blood.

"I thank the blood donors that donated two or three days before my son Quinn's accident." For without them, I may not have my son alive and healthy today. Please give the gift of life over the holiday season. You never know when someone you love will need blood."

Quinn used large amounts of donated blood. Luckily, the night that Quinn needed blood it was available. Because of volunteer blood donors, Quinn was able to be transfused with blood products immediately. For more information on Quinn and to view his full donor extra story, please visit www.pleasegiveblood.org

Donating blood during the holiday season is especially important. With the holiday season in full swing, many of us are decorating our homes, making travel plans, and shopping to find the perfect gifts for our loved ones. But it is at this time that we should consider giving the most valuable gift of all - BLOOD. The need for blood never takes a holiday, but unfortunately, it is during the holiday season that blood donations begin to decline. Medical treatment and accidents occur every day, no matter what time of the year, so the Red Cross asks donors to keep that in mind and donate during the holiday season.

P l e a s e G i v e B l o o d . C a l l 1 - 8 0 0 - G I V E - L I F E .



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Most healthy people who are at least 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more are eligible to donate every 56 days. Donors can give blood at any one of nearly 200 bloodmobiles sponsored by business and community groups in southeastern Pennsylvania and in New Jersey weekly, or at one of nine community donor centers. To make an immediate appointment for an American Red Cross blood drive this week, please call 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543), or visit www.pleasegiveblood.org to find a listing of community blood drives.

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