**NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH – Local Stories 2014**

**Babette, Donor Mom (far right) – Denver, CO**

*Daughter was an organ & tissue donor*

Brianna was in the ICU for four days following a tragic self-inflicted accident. When we were told that she would not make it, we knew that Brianna wanted to be a donor, because she had asked her Daddy what the heart on his license meant. I never knew they had discussed this before until that moment, when Donor Alliance came to talk to us. My husband knew that he wanted to give Brianna her wish and I supported my husband and daughter 100%.

**Pull out quote:** “We knew it was the right thing to do and never gave it a second thought.”

I remember when my husband and I walked into the operating room to say good bye to our daughter, the room was quite except for some beautiful music. We were worried about hearing the machines but it was so peaceful. We had our time to say our last words and tell her how much we loved her. We had time to kiss her and tell her how proud we were that she was doing this, we were never rushed and only felt love and compassion in the room.

Brianna helped people when she was alive and now she was going to give the gift of life in her death. We know that she saved at least three families with her organs and now these families have a second chance at life. They will see their children and grandchildren grow up. She also saved and healed many through the gifts of her tissue.

Our hope is that everyone thinks about this selfless gift to give, providing hope to other families. Although we have had to grieve the loss of our daughter, we are blessed and honored that she gave life to others.