



March 25, 2019



When Jane and Bud Smith learned about a groundbreaking clinical trial at UT Southwestern to study the restoration of touch sensation for hand amputees, they were eager to hear more. As a teenager, Jane lost two limbs after a catastrophic accident and recognized how this innovative research could change the lives of amputees everywhere.

Sitting in a UT Southwestern laboratory, she watched in amazement as a clinical trial patient, Nick Bohac, participated in several experiments. Surgeons had implanted electrodes into his arm to send signals into the undamaged nerves remaining in his limb after amputation. If he touched something with the robotic hand, scientists electrically stimulated the nerves so that he could differentiate between a variety of sensations. Even when blindfolded, the electrodes allowed Nick to sense someone stroking his palm, the hardness of a surface, or the weight of an object.



"I've taken part in the development of something that one day is going to help other people who are in my situation. It's great to help pave the way into this field." – Nick Bohac

"I was just fascinated. I could tell Nick was an extra-special guy. He is smart and very good at making things and solving problems, which as an amputee is a daily occurrence, and will be for the rest of his life. I know this research will never be able to help me during my lifetime, but it will help future generations." - Jane Smith

Jane and Nick became fast friends. The Smiths followed his progress and became so inspired that they made a gift to support the next stage of the study. It was especially gratifying for Jane and her husband to witness the potential impact of their gift through Nick's experience.

Please help make a real impact on the lives of patients like Nick and many others facing health challenges of every kind. By making a gift, you are advancing the continuum of life-changing discovery, care, and education happening every day at UT Southwestern.

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Your support of UTSW's mission enables achievement of full human potential for people like Nick. We need your partnership to keep scientific discovery moving forward. Please consider making a gift today – you can be part of the next lifesaving breakthrough.

We hope you will partner with us to give the gift of health...and hope. Please join us by supporting the future of medicine, today.

Sincerely,

MKlow

Daniel Podolsky, M.D.

DKP:sr

P.S. Amplify the impact of your gift by becoming a sustaining donor. Simply select the option for "Recurring gift" when you donate online at **engage.utsouthwestern.edu/annualfund**.

P.P.S. Read more about Nick and Jane at engage.utsouthwestern.edu/smith-story.

If you do not want to receive future fundraising requests supporting UT Southwestern Medical Center, please write to UT Southwestern Medical Center, Office of Development, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75390-9009 or go to www.utsouthwestern.edu/giving-optout to opt out.

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