

Dear Dr. Burt,

I have thought long and hard about how and what to write in this letter to you, to thank the man, the doctor, the legend who gave me my life back, and who saved my life. Even if in those days in the hospital when I thought a fungus was invading my lung and I was at risk of infection and scared for my life, you were not. You treated me aggressively and with compassion and made me feel safe. You and your NP team are truly wonderful and even allowed me to cry over my friends passing and share my grief. You gave the freedom to talk out my anxiety and fears.

I am truly passionate about your program and the work you do. I hope Northwestern gives you hospital space you so deserve for the HSCT patients, to keep them all together during treatment. It truly is a safer option. I hope to go forward and educate others about HSCT. And if you should ever need words from a patient, I would be more than happy and honored to speak anywhere on behalf of your work and you.

May you have the Happiest of Holidays and I look forward to seeing you in 6 months for my check-up.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,

Ali