

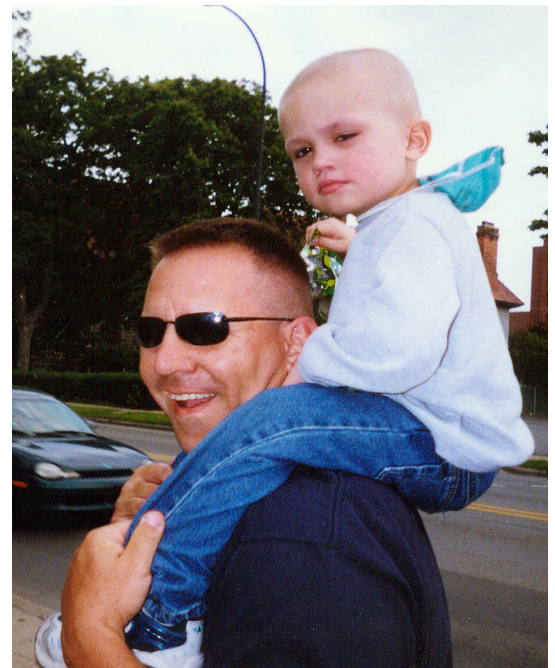
Our story

Please give blood.



**American
Red Cross**

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™



John and Ryley

John's story begins with **Ryley**. Ryley would have been 9 years old this year. He died from **leukemia** when he was 3. For John, Ryley is the main reason he does what he does.

John is a **frequent donor** of platelets and blood through the **American Red Cross**. But before Ryley got sick, John had never heard of platelets, and hadn't given blood in a while. Today, whenever the Red Cross calls, John is there, thinking of Ryley every time he gives. He thinks, too, of other donors and how their **acts of kindness** gave his family hope.

John wants to extend that same hope to others who need blood for their medical care. Because of donors, Ryley had what he needed to **endure his treatments**, and then to just be a typical little kid. That, says John, is what **compels him to donate**. It's the days he got spend with Ryley, the times he got to say *I love you*, and the chance he got to give Ryley one last hug and say goodbye.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, be in general good health, and present a donor card or positive ID upon donation. ©2009 The American National Red Cross 06/09AP639

1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) | givelife.org