



Brain Support Network



In memory of **JEROME “JERRY” JOSEPH MCGINN**

Jerry and his wife were eager to help scientists learn more about the human body. In 2015 they signed up with BioGift, an organization focused on whole-body donation to further scientific research and to help educate and train medical professionals. Jerry had an initial diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease (PD) in 2017. In 2020, the diagnosis was changed to Multiple System Atrophy (MSA). After his brain donation, scientists determined that Jerry had been living with a different neurodegenerative disorder, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP).

PSP has no known cause, treatment, or cure. It can affect parts of the brain that control walking, coordination, balance, speech, vision, cognition, personality, behavior, mood, and, later swallowing. Over time, daily activities for someone with PSP become more challenging. Since treatment is limited, families must learn how to cope with symptoms in such a way that the person with PSP feels listened to and supported. Jerry’s wife Monica provided loving and supportive care throughout his illness.

As seen in Jerry’s case, the only way to obtain a confirmed diagnosis is through brain donation. Researchers need donated brain tissue of those who died with confirmed neurological diseases if treatments, causes, and a cure are to be found. Jerry and his family wished to donate his brain to confirm his diagnosis and to further neurological research while helping medical students and researchers learn more about the human body. With Brain Support Network’s assistance and in coordination with BioGift, Monica was able to accomplish these wishes.

Brain Support Network has helped over 1400 families donate a loved one’s brain by assisting in the complex, comprehensive arrangements. **Your generous contributions in Jerry’s memory allow us to continue to support vital medical research into PSP and its many look-alike conditions.** Charitable contributions can be made by check to Brain Support Network, PO Box 7264, Menlo Park, CA 94026, or by credit card online at www.brainsupportnetwork.org. Thank you for your support!

We celebrate Jerry’s generous gift to all of us and offer our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

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