

May 4, 2017

Dear Bob and Mary Ann,

I would like to thank both of you and the *Blazeman Foundation for ALS* for your continued financial support of the University of Maryland Brain and Tissue Bank. Your recent additional support for the purchase of two large (-)80°C freezers will allow us to continue to recover tissue from the generous ALS community. One of these freezers will serve as an emergency backup freezer for our precious tissue donations. Our greatest fear is that we might lose some donated tissue due to a freezer breakdown. In the 26 years of my leading the brain bank we never have lost a single sample due to freezer breakdown. Careful utilization of alarm systems has allowed us to respond in a timely manner and transfer tissue to a backup freezer.

We continue to honor Jonathan's wish to forge ahead in ALS research. Just as Jonathan generously donated his tissue for research, we hope he set an example for others and that with a combined effort by the ALS community, research scientists and financial donors to the Blazeman Foundation, we may see an eradication of this scourge in our lifetimes.

...so that others may live.

Sincerely,

Ron Zielke, Ph.D.

Director, University of Maryland Brain and Tissue Bank

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BRAIN AND TISSUE BANK – An Affiliate of the NIH NeuroBioBank: <https://neurobiobank.nih.gov>

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