



Midland Taxi Driver Donates Kidney



by **Diane Tuazon**
NewsWest 9

MIDLAND - Anyone who's ever ridden in a taxicab has usually ended up having a chat with the driver.

For one Midland woman, that chat turned into an amazing story of friendship and a life saving sacrifice.

"Our relationship? I don't know. Opposites attract I guess," said

Carol Hambright.

For taxi driver Carol Hambright, Keri Evans is more than just one of her clients.

"I have type one diabetes. Which is why my kidneys have failed. I've been on dialysis for two and a half years," Evans said.

Evans is in need of a kidney transplant, but she never thought her cab driver would be the one willing to donate a kidney in her time of need.

"Everybody's like, I can't believe you're giving up your kidney. I said well, you only need one," Hambright said.

Hambright has been taking Evans to her dialysis for the past two and a half years, and somewhere along the way their chats became more like those of old friends, and Hambright went from cab driver to lifesaver.

"I picked her up one day and she said I quit. I'm not going to make it. I can't find a kidney that's when I told her I'll give you mine," Hambright said.

Hambright's offer caught Evans by surprise.

"There's not very many people out there that would do that. People don't even want to give up their lost ones' organs. They tell me with a living donor, the kidney lasts twice as long," Evans said.

Evans says most people dread and fear surgery, but her attitude is just the opposite. She welcomes going under the knife.

"Dialysis is really hard. They poke it with big needles. Your blood pressure drops and you're wiped out the rest of the day. This would get me out of that," Evans said.

"People should donate if they can. It's not that hard to do," Hambright said.

For both Hambright and Evans, their relationship is proof that friendships can go so far as to save a life.



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