



## Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation



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Mark Agulnik, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Dear Steele family and many, many friends,

I am sorry that I was not able to be with you in person to join in celebrating Chris' life and memory, but please know that your efforts in participating in the Long Grove Race were most appreciated. I would also like to take a few moments to share my thoughts and thanks with you for the support you have raised for sarcoma-specific cancer research at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University.

The economy continues to be a concern to everyone and yet the need for developing improved treatments, new therapies and better outcomes for patients with sarcomas is as important as ever. There is greater opportunity for public funding for cancer research and science through the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute, thanks in part to stimulus money from the US government, but the competition for these funds has also become much greater than ever. We continue to pursue philanthropic support from companies and foundations for our research – and yet they too are hurting in this poor economy. Now more than ever, individuals like you can have the greatest impact in charitable giving and support for cancer research.

Your participation at the Long Grove Race will directly benefit sarcoma research at the Robert H. Lurie Cancer Center. Our sarcoma research program is catalyzing the dedicated talent and resources of our great academic medical center to serve patients today and in the future. Together and with your support, we are building on Northwestern's nationally recognized expertise in treating and studying soft tissue and bone sarcomas. Our sarcoma research program's robust basic, clinical and translational research efforts are ensuring that our patients have immediate access to cutting-edge knowledge, novel diagnostic approaches, and up-to-the-minute therapeutic options.

You have my most profound gratitude for your contribution of time and money to our fight against sarcoma and our fight in Chris' memory and in the name of our patients and their families.

With my esteem and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Agulnik".

Mark Agulnik, MD