

Emotions hit me like a wave.

Here you are lying in front of me

You have willingly given me this priceless gift.

Me

A complete stranger.

At first, I am cautious

Detached from the situation

Not sure how to act

Wanting to learn but also be respectful of you.

Then I realize this is what you want me to do

Learn from you.

Like a light switch being flicked on

I dive deeper into my studies.

As I pull back layers, I am mesmerized by the immense intricacy of the human body.

Embracing each opportunity to learn from you

I find myself holding your hand

This bridge created between life and death.

I find myself wanting to talk to you, yearning to know what your life was like.

I find myself feeling that if we had met on the same side of this great divide, we would have shared a laugh and an embrace.

I may know nothing about you or your life; but the one thing I do know

You are a very generous person

So generous not even death could stop you from giving.

I am inspired by your generosity to give everything I have to helping my patients live meaningful lives.

If I could just for a moment talk to you,

The one thing I could say is thank you,

Thank you for this priceless gift and the many lessons it has taught me.

I promise your generosity will live on as I work with my patients

Incorporating everything I learned from you.

Thank you