

## **Blood drive to honor Grasz as loyal donor**

Written by Deb Egenberger  
Thursday, 01 November 2012 14:06 -

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An American Red Cross bloodmobile at the Brady Community Center on Friday will honor a long-time donor and local resident who will likely need several blood transfusions in the weeks to come.

Terry Grasz, 46, of Brady was critically injured in an automobile accident on Thursday that claimed the life of his wife, Elaine, and two Brady students, Connor and Colten Gentry.

Grasz was a faithful blood donor, having recently given his 31st unit. Elaine's family members are also regular donors, according to Brady bloodmobile coordinator Marilyn Bratten.

"This would be a great way to honor him and his family," Bratten said.

During recent blood drives in Brady, the Red Cross has collected an average of 19 units. The goal for this drive, Bratten said, has increased to 30 and additional nurses will be on hand for the anticipated increase in donations.

Honor cards will be available at the Community Center and can be designated by donors for anyone. Any cards signed for Grasz will be forwarded to his family.

Donors may give whole blood if they are 17 years old, weigh 110 pounds and are in good health. A signed Red Cross parental consent form allows 16-year-olds to donate.

Cancer survivors are allowed to donate if they have been cancer free for a year or more.

Blood donation may be made every 56 days and takes approximately one hour to complete.

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Walk-ins are welcome but with the higher number of donations anticipated, donors are encouraged to make appointments.

The bloodmobile will be open from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Call Bratten at 584-3257 for appointments.

Grasz remains hospitalized in the Saint Elizabeth Regional Burn and Wound Care Center in Lincoln.