Why I became a Freemason

It started when I was 6 years old and I had a brother named Dennis who was 10 years old. Dennis loved baseball and played every day I would always want to play with him and his friends but his friends would not let me play since I was too young for them. Dennis one day told his friends that if I couldn't play Dennis would not play so they let me play. He always looked out for me, one day he got hit in the arm by a baseball and it turned into a bruise which eventually turned into cancer. My father was a mason and could not afford the hospital bills so the Shriners came and offered to pay for everything, when they found no cure (this was back in 1960) and it was terminal the Shriners sent a limousine (in 1960 that was a big deal since only high ranking officials got limos) to the house to take Dennis to Tiger stadium and got him a box seat, all the Tigers signed a baseball for him and that was the happiest day in my brother's life. He passed away 2 weeks later, ever since that time I always wanted to become a Freemason and a Shriner to repay for all the kindness they showed for my brother and my family.

My Florida license plate says YOUWIN and everyone asks what does that mean so I had a frame put around it to say " You win by helping others " and that is what Freemasonry means to me by helping others that are in need and have always supported the Shrine Hospitals till this very day.

Thank you fellow brothers for supporting our mission

Brother,

Patrick Mc Bride