

Hi. I'm Bill Ruud, president of Shippensburg University. At Ship, we are fortunate to have the opportunity to serve outstanding students from through the region and beyond. We are proud of them for what they do in the classroom and outside the classroom, students like Tyrone Dixon.

As a member of the university's boxing team, he recently qualified to compete in the national championships in April. He knows what it's like to be in a good fight, but for Tyrone his greatest battle was the recent one he fought — and won — to save his sister's life.

Tyrone's older sister, Ayesha, was born with a health problem that affected her kidneys and ultimately forced her onto dialysis. Three times a week for four hours each day, Ayesha underwent dialysis. Unfortunately, her condition deteriorated to the point where her best hope to live was a kidney transplant. Currently, nearly four thousand nine hundred Pennsylvanians are awaiting a kidney transplant.

While she waited, Tyrone was tested and was found to be a match. She didn't want to ask, but for the senior human communication major from Yeadon, it was an easy choice to make the life-saving donation. Family, he said, comes first.

Last December, right before final exams he got the call the family was hoping for. It was time for the surgery. Working with his faculty members, he rearranged his exams and went home for the surgery. The surgery was successful and his sister is now back taking college classes and returning to her previously active life. And Tyrone is back boxing and preparing to graduate.

His Ship experience can be expressed in many words. Leadership. Partnership. Stewardship. Friendship. Please visit our website to find out more great stories about the people at Ship.