



Reproductive Technologies, Inc.

THE SPERM BANK OF CALIFORNIA

INTERVIEW NOTES: 5400

Donor 5400 is a friendly, career driven, intelligent scientist who also makes time to cultivate his creativity with writing. He came to our interview dressed in black slacks and a black button-up collared shirt. With his black business attire, he wore a super fun bright gold tie that had beautifully depicted Chinese characters in the color black. Donor 5400 mentioned that people have told him he resembles John Kennedy Jr., and I would say they are very similar in oval face shape, smile, nose shape, and fair skin tone. Our donor, however, has generally softer features; less chiseled and does not have John Kennedy Jr.'s strong jaw.

Donor 5400 grew up on the East Coast with his sister and parents. As a boy, he would often escape with the other neighborhood children to the woods near their home, and they would venture together down to the river. 5400 describes himself as a quiet but active child, participating in Little League Baseball for six years, playing some tennis (which he continues to play), as well as playing football during his high school years.

Donor 5400 spent a lot of his time in nature as a child, and this introduced him to the world of science. He fondly remembered that his parents once gave him a chemistry play set as a gift, and this had the outcome of reinforcing his interest in science. By 3rd grade, he had had his first real science class at school, and he decided then that he knew he would eventually pursue a career in science. He initially wanted to do ecology and engineering, but ultimately he decided to study neuroscience.

During his time as an undergraduate and graduate student, 5400 worked on a myriad of research projects. While working on his Bachelor of Science degree, he worked in a lab researching respiratory control, mostly looking at the medulla area of the brain to find clues about how modulation of respiration works. While in graduate school, he studied issues affecting the visual cortex and perception. Somehow, 5400 concurrently found time to write manuscripts for books and also penned and published poetry!

Currently, Donor 5400 continues to ambitiously pursue a variety of endeavors. In the midst of working on research, patenting inventions, writing poetry and book manuscripts, he makes sure to take short breaks throughout his day walking to local community events, museums, and other culturally rich events in the city. He also dedicates time to meditation and once in a while, when time and deadlines permit, he even makes it out to an electronic music show or remembers his past visits to *Burning Man* festivals, and he sometimes allows himself to contemplate carving out time in his schedule to return to Burning Man.

Considering the amount of important work that Donor 5400 does, we are delighted to have him participate in our program!

Interviewed by: Maribel L. & Lauren L.

Date: 10/20/2017



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DONOR PROFILE: 5400

The past and current personal and family medical history, physical examination, and laboratory test results determine that donor **5400** is eligible and approved for semen donation at THE SPERM BANK OF CALIFORNIA. This profile was prepared in **April 2018**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Identity-Release[®] Program: **Yes**
- Month/year of birth: **April 1978**
- Education: **Bachelor of Science, Biology. Master of Philosophy, Neuroscience**
- Current occupation: **Neuroscientist**
- Ethnic origin: **Irish, Scottish, Italian**
- Religion born into: **Catholicism**
- Religion practicing: **Complicated**

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Height: **5'10"**
- Weight: **156 lbs**
- Hair color: **Dark brown**
- Hair type: **Wavy**
- Eye color: **Dark brown**
- Complexion: **Fair/rosy**
- Body type: **Medium**
- Blood group/Rh: **O+**
- Baby photo available: **Yes**
- Other distinguishing features:

FAMILY MEDICAL HISTORY

KEY: D donor **Ch** child **F** father **M** mother **S** sister **B** brother
Co cousin **A** aunt **U** uncle **MGF** maternal grandfather **MGM** maternal
grandmother **PGF** paternal grandfather **PGM** paternal grandmother

Blood: **PGM: Non-Hodgkin lymphoma at 91, treated with pain management, cause of death at 91.**

Gastrointestinal: **F: Lactose intolerance in 30's, treated with avoidance, managed.**

Heart: **PA: Arrhythmia at 72, treated with surgery to place pacemaker, surgical complications led to death.**

Mental Health: **MGF: Anxiety at 80, treated with medication, managed until death.**

Neurological: **MU: Multiple system atrophy in 60's, treated with medication and other therapies, ongoing until death at 65. MGM: Alzheimer's disease in early 80's, treated with medication, cause of death.**

Respiratory (Lungs): **PGM: Asthma at unknown age, treated with inhaler as needed, managed until death.**

Sight/Sound/Smell: **D: Right eye: 20/20, Left eye, 20/25.**

Cancer (see above): **PGM: Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma**

Other: **D: Retained primary teeth, treated with oral surgery, resolved.**

DONOR LAB RESULTS

Chlamydia: **Not Detected**

HIV 1 & 2: **Non-Reactive**

Hepatitis B: **Non-Reactive**

Urinalysis: **Normal**

Gonorrhea: **Not Detected**

CMV total antibody: **Negative**

Hepatitis C: **Non-Reactive**

Chem panel: **Normal**

Syphilis: **Non-Reactive**

HTLV 1 & 2: **Non-Reactive**

CBC: **Normal**

GENETIC SCREENING RESULTS: ALL TEST VALUES IN NORMAL RANGE

Genetic screening tests can significantly reduce, but never completely eliminate, the chance that a person is a carrier for a particular disorder.

Cystic Fibrosis: (> 500 mutations) **No mutation detected**

Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA): **Two copies of SMN1 detected (Normal)**

Hemoglobinopathies/Thalassemia: **No abnormal hemoglobin detected (including sickle hemoglobin);
No evidence of thalassemia**

DONOR NARRATIVE: 5400

The content of this narrative has not been altered by TSBC staff. It reflects the original written work of the Donor

Describe your personality: introvert, extrovert, funny, serious, goal-oriented, curious, shy, etc.

In social settings, I usually come across as extroverted, but when I need to focus on a project I tend to revert to introversion. Most people who know me well would say that I have a dry sense of humor; I also appreciate wit and laughing at the expense of politicians, which seems to be getting increasingly easy as the line between American politicians and street clowns becomes further blurred with each new election cycle! Curiosity is a way of life for me, and I've always been extremely goal-oriented; for instance, I decided to become a scientist in the third grade and an ex once commented that I "always have a plan".

What are your interests and talents?

neuroscience; poetry; mathematics; computer science / I.T.; inventing; astronomy/astrophysics; anthropology; mythology; conservation; listening to electronic, ethnic, and classical music and hip-hop; kung fu; hiking; backpacking; kayaking; skydiving; travel; and watching the Red Sox

What are some of your goals and ambitions in life? Where do you see yourself in 5 or 10 years?

My primary life goals are and long have been to be a productive scientist, inventor, and poet, and, later in life, to also do research in mathematics. Within 10 years, I envision myself having completed my doctorate, produced more research publications and creative writing, turned my current pending patent into an issued patent and patented at least a few more inventions currently in the pipeline, finished one to two book manuscripts, and gotten my side business to the point where I can delegate most of the work to contractors.

How would you describe your skills and interests in the following areas?

Math: I won a trophy at a math league competition in high school, had a 4.0 average across all math and statistics courses in college and graduate school, got perfect scores on the SAT II Math IIC, AP Calculus BC Exam, and GRE QR section, and am a member of the American Mathematical Society.

Mechanical: I have experience modifying and repairing computers, occasionally build models, have done building and repair work on Habitat for Humanity houses, and used to do a lot of auto-repair work when I had a car that I ran on biodiesel.

Athletic: I earned my varsity letter in high school and have a Wing Chun kung fu certificate from a Master. My favorite sport to play is tennis and my favorite one to watch is baseball (which I played for 6 years in my youth). Other sports that I've been involved in have included soccer, football, track and field, cross-country, karate, and skiing, and I have some lifesaving training.

Musical, Artistic, Creative: I occasionally come up with new dishes and used to paint when I was in high school.

Language (what languages besides English do you speak?): Spanish (6 years, proficient but rusty), Irish (1 year, intermediate), Kiswahili (< 1 year, beginner), and Scottish Gaelic (< 1 year, beginner)

Writing: I write and have published poetry and frequently have to write up and publish the results of my research projects at work.

Literature: Please see the first part of the above response.

Science: I'm a neuroscientist who's published my research and presented at professional meetings, I got an 810 on the GRE Biology, and I've won multiple graduate level science and research awards and a fellowship*.

Please list a few of your favorite:

Movies: *What Richard Did; Waltz with Bashir; Waking Life; Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon; Chasing Amy; The English Patient; Trainspotting; Glory; The Last Emperor; Equus; The Holy Mountain; and Casablanca*

Books/Authors: *The Continuum Concept, Man and His Symbols, The Tempest, Pride and Prejudice, Steppenwolf, The Screwtape Letters, The Stranger, Bonjour Tristesse, Lolita, Catch-22, Li Bo, Thomas the Rhymer, Charles Bukowski, Wislawa Szymborska, X. J. Kennedy, Sylvia Plath, and Seamus Heaney*

Albums/Musicians/Performances: Aphex Twin, Solarstone, Paul Oakenfold, Shpongle, Pachelbel, Tchaikovsky, Orff, Scott Joplin, Thomas Mapfumo, Sacred Spirits, The Chieftains, Capercaillie, Sugarhill Gang, Dre, Ice Cube, and Mr. II

What are a few of your reasons for becoming a sperm donor?

Sperm donation seems to me like a very positive and needed technological and social innovation, and as a biomedical scientist, being able to participate in the application of prior research to benefit people who want to have families but would otherwise have difficulty in doing so is very exciting. I knew two people who had wanted to have children but were unable to, I have many gay friends, and I'm an independent-minded person who might have opted to have kids on my own had I been born female, so my own life experiences and personality incline me to be especially empathetic to everyone seeking donor sperm.

You have joined the Identity-Release® Program. What appeals to you about this program?

This program seems imperative because so many people will at some point in their lives wonder about their origins, and I feel that we're all entitled to information to satisfy that curiosity. I'd personally be very interested in getting to know donor offspring who've reached their 18th birthdays (but only any donor offspring who might feel comfortable with that idea themselves).

Is there anything else you would like to share with participating families and offspring?

Best of luck to you and your growing family!

(*Edited for identifying information only)



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HEALTH PROBLEMS DONOR 5400

FAMILY MEMBER	HEALTH PROBLEM	TREATMENT/RESOLUTION
Donor	Retained primary teeth	Age at onset/diagnosis: 13 Treatment: Oral surgery Outcome: Resolved
Father	Lactose intolerance	Age at onset/diagnosis: 30s Treatment: Avoidance Outcome: Managed
Maternal Grandfather	Anxiety	Age at onset/diagnosis: 80 Treatment: Medication Outcome: Managed until death
Maternal Grandmother	Alzheimer disease	Age at onset/diagnosis: Early 80s Treatment: Medication Outcome: Cause of death at 89
Paternal Grandmother	Asthma	Age at onset/diagnosis: Unknown Treatment: Inhaler as needed Outcome: Managed until death
	Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	Age at onset/diagnosis: 91 Treatment: Pain management Outcome: Cause of death at 91
Maternal Uncle	Multiple system atrophy*	Age at onset/diagnosis: 60s Treatment: Mobility aids, medication, CPAP therapy Outcome: Ongoing until death at 65
Paternal Aunt	Arrhythmia	Age at onset/diagnosis: 72 Treatment: Pacemaker placed surgically Outcome: Surgical complications led to death

The above family medical history information has been self-reported by the donor. We work with each donor to obtain as complete and accurate information as possible, but we are unable to completely rule out the existence of other health information that is not known, or that remains unreported to us.

As a board certified genetic counselor, I have reviewed this donor's family medical history for identifiable patterns of inheritance that may place the donor or his biological offspring at increased risk for certain health problems. ("Increased risk" is risk that is greater than the risk in the general population).

***Regarding the paternal uncle with *multiple system atrophy* (MSA)—this is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder characterized by a combination of symptoms that affect the nervous system. Most cases are considered sporadic (not hereditary).**

Otherwise, review of the remaining available family medical history information from this donor, the risk for similar health problems occurring in offspring is not expected to exceed the risk in the general population.

Cynthia Kane, M.S., C.G.C.
Genetic Counselor