

# Mike Crowley



## My Story:

- Waukesha, WI
- Graduated Ohio Valley Business College, Business & Accounting
- Married to Sherie, 31 years, 2 Kids: Andy, 26, Marissa, 23
- CEO at National Kidney Foundation of Wisconsin and Waukesha County Board Supervisor
- Volunteer, advocate, fundraiser for JDRF since 2000

**JDRF Connections:** Andy, son, diagnosed at 2 years old.

**JDRF Rides:** 23, including La Crosse (10X), Death Valley (6X), Tucson (2X), Amelia Island (2X), Nashville (1X), La Crosse Solo My Ride (2X) '20 & '21

**JDRF Coach:** 5<sup>th</sup> Year

**Ride to Cure Journey:** While serving as the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter Board President in 2001, the Board challenged me to do a JDRF Ride. I accepted the challenge. Being new to cycling, I had to start with buying a bicycle, and all the gear that goes with it. Thanks to Wheel & Sprocket and Chris Kegel for setting me up with the right equipment, this led to a very fun and amazing first Death Valley Ride for me! I loved it so much, was hooked on the camaraderie, quality Ride Program and fun cycling, I returned to Death Valley 5 more times. I also added the La Crosse Ride, Tucson Ride, Amelia Island Ride and Nashville Ride to my list of fabulous JDRF Rides!

**Favorite JDRF Ride:** My favorite JDRF Ride must be the first one. Completing 105 miles in Death Valley after fundraising and training, was an amazing feeling! It hooked me! The JDRF "family" is special and just draws you in. But of course, I could say every JDRF Ride is my favorite! All filled with special moments, awesome ride experiences, and the sense of tremendous accomplishment in fundraising, cycling, helping others achieve their goals, and goosebump moments! People + Bicycles = Fun!

**My JDRF 2020 & 2021 Ride's, Reimagined:** As all JDRF Rides were cancelled in 2020 & 2021, "My Ride" was a commitment to train, fundraise and do a Ride anyway. I did the La Crosse Ride To Cure Diabetes, solo, both of those years. Reliving the JDRF Ride experience, staying overnight in La Crosse, broadcasting Live at the Start Line at Riverside Park, posting on social media throughout the entire ride and, of course, celebrating the 102 miles with a dinner and beer!

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