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Sparking in trying times - update on DH

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

It's been 13 days since DH had brain surgery for a subdural hematoma.

First the good news - Joe is doing quite well. He came home on Thursday and is right now sitting at his computer answering email after making a pot of coffee for us as he has done for the last 50 years.

Of all the things I worried about happening to him like:
 Getting hit by a jet ski as he swam his mile each day in the lake.
 Getting capsized and run over by a power boat as he sailed his little sailboat.
 Having a heart attack as he did battle with our shrubbery in Virginia heat and humidity
 Falling off the mountain as he gazed at the scenery in the distance

I never expected a serious event after FALLING OUT OF BED!

It was a low European style bed in our apartment in Slovakia. He bumped his head. We laughed about how he fell asleep on the "wrong" side of the bed. So when he rolled over, instead of squashing me, he hit the floor. Yeah, we laughed. I did watch him for signs of concussion. There weren't any. Not for over 3 weeks.

At home he spent nearly a week at his regular activities including the swimming and yard work. When finally there was weakness in his left leg and hand, I thought he was having a stroke. CT scan revealed a large hematoma on each side of his head, a result of slow blood leakage after the fall.

Surgery, tubes to drain the blood and follow-up CTs and assorted tests.
 They credit the fact that he was in very good shape for his ability to recover. He is 71 after all.

So far so good. His first PT evaluation yesterday showed some weakness on the left side which isn't noticeable unless tested. (e.g. Stand for 30 seconds on a large piece of foam with feet together and eyes closed while maintaining balance). Also some weakness in his right hand which hasn't prevented him from working that trackball on his computer. It's his own form of occupational therapy, I think.

Anyway, I thought I should check back in. Thank you for the good wishes. The one part of my daily routine that I kept up was logging in here and keeping up my streak although I didn't read or post much else. Somehow, it helped me believe that we would get back to normal if I at least logged in. As they say "80% of life is showing up." I kept up exercise walking a mile at a time through the hospital corridors and back and forth in the house using what DH calls the "route of the confused squirrel."

When the therapist asked DH what his goal was, he said he wanted to get back to where he was before. Sounds good to me although I think he better confine his swimming to the pool where no one can run him over.

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DS9KIE

Get Well Soon

1713 days ago



JANET552

Wow!! I am so happy that your DH has not had greater impairment and probably will make a full recovery. It certainly is a great reminder to mind your health so that when accidents happen, your healthy body can concentrate on healing. Also a great reminder to be prepared for those accidents.




1722 days ago



GINIEMIE

Oh, my goodness! I'm so sorry I've been oblivious to Joe's problems . I was sick last week and only checked in to keep my streak and did not notice this in the feed. Also for some reason-must have missed a blog-I haven't been getting notified when you write one.

So here are an my expressions of concern for the brain surgery, and  prayers for a

complete and rapid recovery.   



1723 days ago



957910

You're in my prayers.
1723 days ago



MARYJEANSL

I'm so sorry! Goodness, what a scare! I'm very glad that the surgery, etc., was successful, and that he has been able to pretty much get back to his regular activities. You are both in my prayers. I haven't been on a lot myself lately - blew my log-in streak (again!) yesterday, and I missed the news. I hope he continues to recover and does indeed get back to where he was. You take care of yourself too!
1725 days ago



WATERMELLEN

So very happy to read this blog. We worry all the time . . . and it's so good that this totally unexpected consequence will not have long-lasting impact.
1727 days ago



1STBUCKETITEM

Get Well Soon

Glad your hubby is on the mend. Great to hear that his stamina and good health prior to his fall has been a credit to his speedier recovery. Quite an inspirational aspiration for all of us!
1727 days ago



NUMD97

Really very, very happy to hear your good news about Joe, B_B. I had this blog up to remind myself to get back to it. First, he was very lucky that you were once again home when you sought treatment. Second, he was lucky again that it was just weeks from the event. I remember with President Reagan, by the time they discovered it, it was months later.

Thrilled that he is making excellent progress towards full recovery. I hope that you, too, can find your way back to normalcy very quickly. The fact that you can be glib in your post indicates that the worst is behind you both.

Life is incredibly precious and so fragile. One never knows from one moment to the next sometimes what to expect. I am sure that you realize this especially now.

Thanks for keeping us in the loop. May your dear hubby's progress continue.....uneventfully.



1728 days ago

Comment edited on: 9/15/2016 11:18:35 AM



MISCHAKEO

I am so sorry about his accident and very happy to hear that he is recovering. Hugs to both of you.




1729 days ago



CARBMONSTERII

I can't even begin to imagine how scared you were through all this! And how lousy it is that it could take so long after the fall for symptoms to develop. But I won't call Joe lucky, because he actively kept doing and moving, so he absolutely earned and deserved a great recovery from this injury. It's just sad that the injury happened. Here's all my good thoughts and wishes for his quick



and complete resolution of symptom!  to Joe!

1730 days ago



BBEAGAN

Oh my goodness, how terrifying for you both! Imagine - the results showing up 4 weeks after the fall! My partner have an ongoing joke about how she has to confess to her massage therapist how she injured some body part... Like this one is a putting-on-socks strain, or this one is a hanging the clothes on the line strain... But a falling out of bed hematoma! That takes the cake! I'm so glad everything turned out okay...



1730 days ago



GRACED777

I'm glad your husband is doing better now and that you have been able to keep up your streak and some exercise during this hard season. I will remember you all in prayer.



1730 days ago



SUNNYBEACHGIRL

Oh my goodness. Life just happens glad it is getting better



1730 days ago



MRSFANCYLADY

Thank God he is on the road to recovery! Keep looking up and things will be more normal

soon. Take care. 



Brenda

1730 days ago



PEGGYO



1730 days ago



LIVEDAILY

Wow, who would've thought that such a serious situation would show itself 3 weeks after happening!! Good for you that you were watchful, and that you were stateside when you went to hospital. I'm so glad to hear that Joe is doing well!! Keep up with PT, and he'll be fine!! Good for you for keeping your sign in streak going strong! It's the little daily routines that give strength to the day!



1730 days ago



HOLLYM48

Prayers for continued healing for your hubby. I am so glad to hear he seems to be coming right along. Thank goodness for good health to start with. Take good care of yourself through this as well. Sending hugs!



1730 days ago



SYLPHINPROGRESS

This is a shock. I missed your first post about Joe's fall and the injury. I'm glad he's doing well. The therapy may be a somewhat lengthy process, but it pays off. Please give Joe my regards. I was wondering why I haven't seen you much and thought you must be busy. Too bad it wasn't with happier goings-on.



1730 days ago





DOVESEYES

So glad you posted how you are going thinking of you both hugs.
1730 days ago



ONEKIDSMOM

So glad you paid attention and they figured out what was up! A speedy recovery to your DH, and comfort and rest for you, too!
1730 days ago



POINDEXTRA

OMG, I'm SO glad to hear that things are working out OK. Big hugs to both of you, and prayers for a full and swift recovery.
1730 days ago



PHEBESS

OMG I'm so sorry to hear this!!!!!! You must have been freaking out!!!! (I know I would have been!) Sounds as if all is good now, but what an ordeal!!!!

Big hugs to you as you and he both recover from this incident, and may he have a speedy recovery to his full normal self.

And just a note - this is why DH and I always maintain our "sides" of the bed - otherwise he tries to climb over me to get out, because he's so used to the other side of the bed.

1730 days ago



CD4114015

I had NO idea...but I'm glad it is going well now. I can certainly imagine how upset you were as I would have been! But it's going well now and will add our prayers for him with yours! Try to report



in again so we know how he is doing.

1730 days ago



PRNCSCUP1-2FULL

So good to hear from you! What a scary thing! I think too many of us don't take slight bumps on the head seriously enough! Who would think?!! Especially when the person seems fine right after! I'm so glad he is on the mend and wanting to get back to where he was! The want to get better is more than half the battle! Wishing him continued success in his recovery and extra strength for you!

1730 days ago



CD15003511

That is scary stuff. I hope your hubby is on the mend and will be back to his old self soon. Sending healing vibes.

1730 days ago



TERI-RIFIC

I am so glad everything turned out well. I hope he continues to get well quickly. There is an entity known as the "ground level fall" which can be very dangerous, mainly in people over 60, which most people don't even realize. My husband sees it in the ER a lot. Your husband hasn't lost his sense of humor! Tell him your real imaginary friend says get well soon!

1730 days ago



SUBMOM2

Thanks for the update. So glad to hear your hubby is doing better!

As for the open water swimming, ONEKIDSMOM wrote about a safety buoy thingy that she uses, if that helps.

Take care!

1730 days ago



TUTUNAN

How frightening for you both. Fortunately he seems to be recovering well. As others have said, take care of yourself as well.

1730 days ago



KRISZTA11

I'm so glad he is feeling better and there are no serious complications!



1730 days ago

BRIGHTSPARK7

It's clear how much you love him and how precious the marriage is. Fifty years! Wow! We are going on 36. Enjoy your time together and worrying doesn't help. I tell myself that. Celebrating his recovery with you!

1730 days ago



PHOENIX1949

Glad to hear he is healing well. I count events like this as wake-up calls to remind us to make the most of every minute.



1730 days ago



CD15520036

What a shock for you both! I hope your husband recovers completely. IMHO it sounds like a very realistic hope.



Continuing to spark if you can is a great way to stay centered.



1730 days ago



DR1939

When my DH was in the hospital for two weeks following some small strokes I walked an hour each day before I went in to see him. It was the only thing that saved my sanity. Be careful of your own health, I had some heart problems about six months after his problems. This is a relatively common occurrence with a caregiver.



1730 days ago



WILSONWR

We've been out of town on our honeymoon, and I missed all of this! I hope your DH continues to improve. What a scare!




1730 days ago



MILLEDGE2

Oh my goodness! I am so glad everything is going well. You must have needed that walk around the hospital to deal with your concern about DH. Looks like this story will have a happy



ending! 
1730 days ago



CD13396003

I'm so glad that your husband is okay now. Keep on sparking!



1730 days ago



HELEN_BRU

Wondered what on earth happened to him! You never know, do you. Just falling out of bed. Hope he gets back to normal soon !



1730 days ago



SMILINGEYES2

Oh my. To think that a simple fall could cause such harm. So glad your dh is recovering so well. So happy for you both. My mama always said that she knew worrying worked because 90% of what she worried about never happened. Can understand your concern. While he may be cautious, not all watercraft operators are. Add alcohol to the mix and it is even worse.



Glad you were able to keep your walking up. Love the humor of your path being as a squirrel.

Stay in touch. We care.

1730 days ago



TRAILGRLJESS

He sounds like he is doing fantastic! Helps with the patient is motivated as well. Best wishes to the both of you. ♡



1730 days ago



YELLOW09RED

Hugs for his recovery time.
Sorry he had this happen from falling from bed.



Thankful you kept your eyes on him.
Have a blessed Tuesday,
Debbie

1730 days ago



FITNIK2020

I had no idea that symptoms could show up over three weeks . It does make perfect sense.
Glad to hear he's on the mend.
1730 days ago



IFDEEVARUNS2

So glad to hear he is doing well.
1730 days ago



JEANKNEE

Happy to hear that DH is doing well and continues to make progress. Both of you show up.
And, it has, no doubt, served both of you well. Take care!



The thought of him making coffee as he's done for 50 years warmed my heart.  to you both.

Enjoy your  and each other.
1730 days ago




CD15641307

Glad to hear he's ok.
1731 days ago



BRANDI1809

 great news about your husband & well done for staying with Spark.
1731 days ago



CRADLEY

Glad to hear he is on the mend.
1731 days ago



HET2011

I'm glad everything is going well... I'll keep you in my prayers
1731 days ago



QUINEBAUGKID

Thank God for his healing. It is wonderful to hear of his recovery.
1731 days ago



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