



HELP RICK RECOVER AFTER HIS SERIOUS MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT

I'm writing this story from my hospital bed.

This past Tuesday, June 30th, at 4:45 in the morning, I was on my way to work when my life changed in an instant.

As I was riding my motorcycle, I encountered an unstable construction roadway and road hazards that caused me to lose control of my bike and crash. Within minutes, first responders were on scene helping me through one of the worst moments of my life.

I cannot thank those first responders enough. As I keep telling everyone, they were absolutely "off the charts" with their help, compassion, and professionalism. I feel the same way about the incredible doctors, nurses, and medical staff here at CaroMont Regional Medical Center in Gastonia who continue to care for me every day.

I was transported by ambulance to the hospital, where I remain today.

Since the accident, I have undergone surgery to repair my broken right tibia and put my knee back into place. Right now, I cannot place any weight on my legs, and the road to recovery ahead will be long.

Before retiring, I proudly served as a police officer. These days, I stay busy driving military recruits to boot camps. I love the job, the young men and women I transport, and they seem to enjoy having me around too.

Helping others has always been important to me. For the past 11 years, I have proudly served as an executive member of the Nation of Patriots, helping support veterans and their families while

contributing to an organization that has ridden more than 240,000 miles across America, raised \$2.5 million and helped 846 veterans and their families

I am blessed with amazing grown children, three wonderful grandchildren, and another grandchild on the way.

Anyone who knows me knows that I am usually the first person to help and the last person to ask for help.

The funds raised will help with medical expenses and everyday living expenses while I focus on healing and recovery.

Thank you for your kindness, support, prayers, and generosity.

Rick Bitzer ☐☐

HelpVy



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