

Stopping suddenly to avoid a car, Larry was thrown over the handlebars of his bike, and landed directly on his face. “Lying on the ground, bleeding, paralyzed and crying for help, I thought, I’m not going to be able to go home, hold my wife, or ever cycle again. But as the feeling gradually began to return to my spine, my toes and my fingers, I was hopeful.”

Larry has summered in Wells since 1975, and “had only heard accolades about the care provided by York Hospital.” But he suddenly had reason to find out first-hand.

It was June 24 — another perfect, sunny day — and, the two year anniversary of Larry’s retirement. Just that morning, he had emailed his wife saying, “ ‘Life has never been so good, and I have never been so happy.’ Little did I know that only one hour later I would be lying on the pavement, savoring each breath.”

As the ambulance doors opened and Emergency Department physician Dr. Terry Farrell, appeared with his team, Larry felt such a powerful message. “It meant, *We’re waiting for you and we’re ready.* Immediately, I felt safe, welcomed — and that **the focus of their energy and their competence was solely on me... my well-being.**” And that competence continued with the skill of ENT and facial plastic surgeon Dr. Brett Rankin, whose expert placement of 60 stitches on Larry’s face is all but undetectable.

Soon after events calmed a bit, a phone was placed by Larry’s ear — his wife’s voice at the other end. “Yes, they treated my injuries,” Larry said, “but they also knew they were treating a stressed and frightened person, and made the extra effort to make me feel good. *This was where I needed to be.*”

Certainly nothing about that ‘perfect June summer day’ went to plan. Right down to the golf game that Larry intended to play that afternoon. “I often give myself ‘mulligans’. Well, on that day, the biggest mulligan was given to me by York Hospital — *an extra chance at life.* And later, after I was able to go home, I said to my wife, *‘On the worst day of my life I met the most wonderful people I had ever encountered.’*”

“I will be York Hospital’s friend forever.”

Endings like Larry’s story are the endings we *all* want to tell. All of us... our friends and neighbors looking for extraordinary medical care, right down the road, by talented, caring experts waiting for us when we need them most. And people, like you, are a large part of the reason that York Hospital is able to accomplish this every day.

With your help now, York Hospital promises to be there for you, when you need us most... And that’s why we hope you’ll consider a gift of \$25, \$50 or \$100, or whatever you would like to share, to ensure that you and your family continue to receive the care you deserve, and may appreciate on your own “less than perfect June day.”

We’re here to help you, your family and friends when you’re ill, injured and scared – to provide hope, healing and recovery. Don’t think for a moment that your generosity doesn’t make a difference...because it has a tremendous impact on everyone here at York Hospital who works hard to make — and keep — you healthy.



“Far from home, scared, hurt — yet when EMTs came to my rescue, I didn’t hesitate to ask them to bring me to York Hospital.”

-Larry A., Wells and Quebec City

“I will forever be grateful for the care & support I received that day at York Hospital.”

Merci beaucoup, Larry

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