

In my 57 years, I have certainly seen how events can ravage a life. I've watched my father die from congestive heart failure and kidney failure. I watched my ex-father-in-law die as his children surrounded him. I lost a pregnancy. But nothing prepared me for the last 20 years of my life.

Hi, I'm a medically retired teacher, mother of three grown children, and one and three quarters grandsons (he will be here in January). I am retired due to Neurocardiogenic Syncope, an orthostatic condition in which my body thinks my blood pressure is too high when it isn't, and my vascular system drops the blood pressure suddenly causing me to pass out. Doctors know what happens, but not why. There is no cure. While the syndrome is not fatal, it is debilitating. Simply standing in line for groceries or standing to worship at church can bring on an episode which leaves me flat on the floor and feeling very ill for up to two days. I'm refractory to all medications, so I lost my 29 year career to NCS in 2013.

Since 2000, I've been through divorce, my daughter's sexual assault, and my own, the death of my father, the loss of my career, and a very emotionally, verbally, and psychologically abusive marriage. I'm a Christian and believe God does not give us more than we can handle; I watched my daughter graduate instead of burying her, but all of these events culminated into Trauma/ Betrayal Bonding, a type of Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD), so severe that living alone is terrifying. I have no family in my area; my children and mother are at least eight hours away. I cannot drive many days because of the NCS, and because of the fear due to the Trauma Bonding, find simple tasks like grocery shopping or picking up prescriptions overwhelming. Add the loneliness and I often am emotionally paralyzed. I sequester myself in my house for days.

I seek to adopt Marley, a beautiful four-year-old Great Pyrenees. I know I can give Marley a good home, and he will give me companionship and the great joy of unconditional love. I, however, need your help through the generosity of compassionate giving. I live on SSDI and a small retirement income. Through your financial gift- sponsoring my adoption of Marley from New Life Individual and Family Services, you can help me regain myself. My life was once productive. I know Marley can help me be that again. Marley is not merely a pet; he's a friend, an assistant, and a face. He's life support. Please reach into your heart and help me with this adoption by making a generous donation.

Thank you.