

Caught Between Life and Death Book Excerpt

It appeared as if I was caught between life and death when the paramedic placed the nitroglycerin pills under my tongue.

Nitroglycerin? I thought to myself, surely I'm not having a heart attack.

Everything was a blur. I felt like Darth Vader behind this oxygen mask as I could scarcely breathe with this crushing chest pain. Despite all the commotion going on inside this body of mine, I was more amazed by the hub of the fire and rescue squads that caused more attention in the neighborhood than I would have liked. I could feel the eyes of curious onlookers peering at me wanting to know the obvious question, "What happened to her?"

"Wow, who'd have thought it, me riding in an ambulance causing people to part the road like the Red Sea. Lord knows I never saw this day coming. Aren't I supposed to be too young for this?" I smiled within.

I wasn't afraid to leave this world. As far as I was concerned, everyone I would possibly leave behind had somebody. I wouldn't be leaving anyone alone.

However, I will never forget the look on my son's face when he arrived at the house to find the paramedics wheeling me out on the stretcher. It was a defining moment in my life. I glanced over and noticed a frightened boy instead of the usual jovial, confident young man. What I saw in my son's eyes that day unnerved me to the core more than any health issue I've ever faced. I saw an indescribable fear in his eyes as his expression revealed a lost look of utter hopelessness.

Danny appeared worse than I felt. Life withdrew from his face like the waters from the shore when the tide goes out. The light instantly went out of him. He looked about as different as I did to him. Apparently, I had more influence in my young adult son's life than I realized.