

## Friday - April 3

*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 4:6-7 (NRSV)*

The date was July 22, 1996, and I was running late. I left the groceries all over the kitchen table and headed for the pre-school. My wife, Judy had to work that evening. I needed to pick up my 6-year-old son, Michael, and get him to his class at Shanahan Middle School. I did not have time to check-out my 3-year-old son, Paul, from an adjacent building. I got Michael to his class just before it started and then began heading back to the daycare. The light at the intersection of State Route 23 and Shanahan Road turned green. This would be the last thing that I would remember on that day. Inside the intersection, my vehicle was struck by a 50,000 lb. semi-tractor trailer which had run the red light. I woke up the next morning in The Ohio State University ICU. I no longer had any control over the left side of my face. Surgery came next, followed by weeks of recovery, where most (not all) of my facial functionality would return.

As I look back, I am always grateful for the family and friends who supported Judy and me during that difficult period. But most of all, I am grateful to God who never let go of my hand. You see when I woke up that morning in the ICU, I knew that however it turned out, it was going to be alright.

Steve

**Prayer:** Almighty and Everlasting God, thank you for simply being here. Thank you for the peace that You provide to us all through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.