

Superman now wheelchair bound

Hey, my name is Lori. I'm 15, a student and a young carer. I care for my dad who is a paraplegic amputee. He is my dad and he will always be my hero. I have been a carer all my life. I will be a carer all his life. This is my story...

My father had a car accident around 22 years ago. This caused his paraplegia (he cannot move or feel below his waist). He would never walk again. This was hard for him to deal with because he was a major sportsman. He is now confined to a wheelchair. He got through this hurdle and became a wheelchair tennis and basketball star. However, ten years later things became worse.

The year I was born my father suffered a major fall. He broke his leg amongst many other injuries. Sadly, this restricted him from playing his much loved sports. As time went on, things only became worse and, seven years later, my dad's leg had to be amputated. This led to his depression.

My family have always been the ones I look up to. The day I saw my dad cry, changed all of our lives. That day I grew up. That day I saw exactly what my dad had to go through everyday. That day, my dad and I became closer than ever. Nothing will change that.

Seven years ago Carers found me. Seven years ago hope was re-gained in my family.

Carers ACT is a support group. They helped my family by giving us someone to talk to. Carers didn't ask for anything in return. They came into our family and gave us help to brighten our life. Young carers respite care help me personally so much.

Staying in the house all the time, not getting work done, not sleeping were all getting to me. With my caring role I was always anxious about what could happen to my dad while I was away at school. Carers gave me a chance to get out of the house, socialise and have some fun not to mention they helped my mum look after dad while I was away. Without the respite I think I wouldn't enjoy life so much.

I have met the most amazing people through all the programs provided. So many of them have inspired and changed my life.

Carers ACT was, and still is, a huge part of my family.

Lori ✨



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