

Reed Reflections ...from the desk of Judy Reed

Helping train third world missionaries

July 2021

A Birthday to Remember!

Robert's birthday bash this year was unforgettable! On the spur of the moment at precisely 1:54 p.m. on June 22, we chartered a top-of-the-line red "carriage" with flashing lights (siren option available as well ☺) and whisked him off to a near-by "resort" where he had an extensive staff attending to his every need for four days.

The chest pain that prompted such an outlandish "celebration" led quickly to a diagnosis of AFib and congestive heart failure, and we embarked on an adventure learning all about those things.

The medical personnel extracted 1600 ml of fluid from his lungs, but couldn't do a cardioversion to put his heart back into sinus rhythm because the cardiologist found a "huge clot" (his words) in Robert's heart. So Robert came home from the hospital on blood thinners (apparently for life), with a huge blood clot in a pocket of his atrium. And now we wait for it to dissolve.



And just like that, with Robert's arrival at home, the patient population of Reed Assisted Living doubled! And the best part of my birthday the next day was having my husband home once again. I am grateful for the help of my brother and sister-in-law caring for Mom while I spent days with Robert in the hospital.

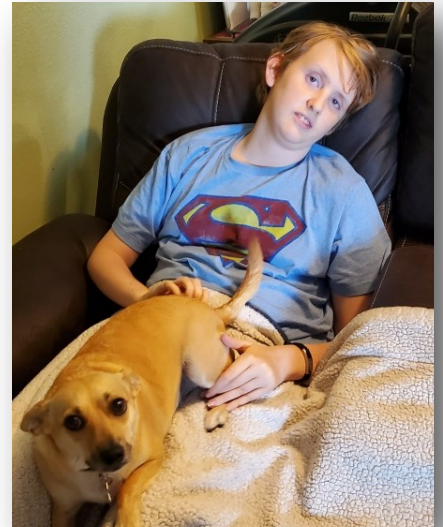
I was unprepared for how weak Robert would be upon discharge from the hospital. His legs wouldn't hold him up. In order to get him from the car into the house, we had to pull out my dad's old wheelchair from the shed where it had been stored for 11 years (note to self: do not store wheel chairs in a shed in the Texas heat!!!) As we wheeled him from the car into the house, the rubber peeled off the wheels in chunks and left black streaks in the carpet and big chunks of useless rubber in its wake! Our kids immediately began what turned into an arduous online and phone search until they found a wheelchair in stock about 1/2 hour from here and bought it for him! Also the first 48 hours at home, he slept round the clock except for meals and medications. I guess he had to make up for the lack of sleep in the hospital and recuperate from all of the major stuff that happened there. By day three at home, he was able to walk with help to the bathroom and able to shower using a shower chair...after which he slept SOUNDLY for two to three hours from exhaustion. Bit by bit since then he continues to gain strength.

Praise God with us that the whole time (probably many months) that the clot was forming in Robert's heart it didn't dislodge and cause a heart attack, stroke, or any of the myriads of other things a clot can cause. *Please pray that as we wait for it to dissolve, it will stay put and not cause problems.*

Robert's health began declining about the time he started looking into ProMETA as a channel for fulfilling the ministry God placed on his heart—to train third world missionaries. Robert's team at ProMETA has encountered much spiritual warfare and firmly believes that there is a strong component of that here; Robert has been an invaluable asset in so many different areas in ProMETA and he is helping train front-line warriors. Satan greatly fears what believers could be, what we could accomplish for the Kingdom, and puts up a tenacious fight. *Please pray for God's protection and full healing so that Robert can resume his ministry with vim, vigor, and vitality.*

Another Birthday to Remember!

Ten days before his 13th birthday, grandson Nathan had major surgery to correct his sunken rib cage to make sufficient room for his lungs and heart. So when his birthday rolled around, he was home recovering from having had a "crane" lift his sternum while a surgeon inserted two titanium bars to hold the sternum out. Nathan is doing amazingly well! He has learned the many strict post-surgical restrictions and is following them all responsibly to avoid the bars moving while they wait for scar tissue to form around them to help hold them in place. *The main prayer request for Nathan is that God will hold those bars in place until it's time for them to be removed three years from now.* He is able!



Thank You!

We are beyond grateful for you, our friends and supporters who pray for us and donate so that we can do what God has called us to do. We are beyond blessed!! May God multiply back to you every gift and every prayer, every kindness, every encouragement, filling your life with blessings that overflow their boundaries!

Praise and Prayer

- **Praise** for God's orchestration in connecting us with ProMETA, and for the ways God is using Robert there in helping prepare third world missionaries for effective service.
- **Praise** that God kept the clot in Robert's heart from breaking loose and causing a heart attack, stroke, etc., all the months that it was forming and we didn't know it was there. **Pray** that God will still keep it from breaking loose while we wait for it to dissolve.
- **Praise** that Nathan came through his surgery well and is making an outstanding recovery so far. **Pray** that God will hold the bars in place until it is time for them to be removed.
- **Pray** for our colleagues Manuel and Yorleny Porras to get all the support they need for their ministry in Costa Rica and Panama. **Praise** for those who have indicated an interest in helping support them! **Manuel and Yorleny have joined Partners in Joy and can now be supported through Partners in Joy** like we are! Their personal ministry webpage is not up yet, but a check can be mailed or a donation made for them on the main PiJ webpage (www.partners-in-joy.org) with a note that it is for them.

Robert and Judy Reed, 935 Green Rock Dr, Duncanville, TX 75137 214-725-3439 (R), 972-679-2884 (J)
judy-bob_reed@hotmail.com www.partners-in-joy.org/robert-and-judy-reed for online giving

Partners in Joy, PO Box 3761, Pueblo, CO 81005 972-283-7910 www.partners-in-joy.org