

## **A Victim of Drunk Driving**

Susan decided to drive to my parent's house for dinner. I remember getting ready for the night, thinking about how I would tell my parents the news. Susan, my protective big sister, was always there for support. She and I were going to tell them together. I knew I couldn't do it on my own. The announcement to come overwhelmed me as we started our drive.

The destination would never come. Little did we know as we drove through the intersection that a man, who had been charged with DUI's in the past, was driving his truck home from work. In his glove box sat a half empty bottle of vodka. The bottle was half empty because he needed a drink after a long day before his drive. The man was an alcoholic, charged with a DUI but still had access to a vehicle. He never took notice of the stop sign that night and we didn't see him in time.

The crash was louder than thunder, my half open bottle of coke tossed around the car along with us as we rolled, what seemed like in slow motion, over and over again. I don't remember anything after that until my eyes opened in a sterile cold bed with a heart monitor beeping beside me. It was one week after the incident that my eyes finally opened. The look in my mother's and father's eyes told me my situation was worse than I originally felt. I went to lift my left arm only to realize my arm was now gone. It was so damaged in the crash, the doctors had to amputate. I also realized I couldn't see out of my right eye. I discovered my eye had to be removed, as it too was damaged due to the impact. I was told I was lucky to be alive.

I would later learn my sister Susan wasn't so lucky. She had passed away at the scene, while the drunk driver in the truck would survive. Would he again get behind the wheel of another vehicle? I would also learn I no longer have news to share with my parents. The pregnancy I was so anxious about was now terminated and I would never have that chance again. Due to the accident, I could no longer have a child. The driver of the vehicle took more than my sister's and unborn child's life that night. He took any future life I may have had away as well.