



Daddy's Got an "Owieeee"

"We are Family..." Sister Sledge

This picture was taken in in the summer of 1969 at John and Grace Millers home in Maywood.

I was recuperating from an accident I had been in at North American Aviation in Downey. My real healing and recovery was because of Kathy and these two, Sharon and Stephen. I never appreciated until many months later just how fortunate I really was.

During a high pressure test on some Apollo Ground Support Equipment a safety error by a technician caused a pressure gage to explode. Unfortunately, my face was in front of it taking reading. The glass face of the gage shattered and

blasted my face pushing me backwards and lacerating the right side of my face and the cornea of my right eye. If it had not been for divine intervention, I would have bled out in the minutes after the explosion. Another technician in the area got to me immediately applied pressure on a severed artery and triaged me. I discovered later he was a Vietnam Viet who was a medic and had just returned from duty.

Three weeks of surgeries and hospitalization and six months of rehab and then I was back to work.

Kathy and I were very young and had just begun this new life and started our family. Her strength and love not only healed me but nurtured Stephen and Sharon through this difficult time. Love and family saved my life and soul. We would be tested many more times in our life and it continues even to now. We have always been there for each other and will continue to be. We are Family...

Jerry Blackburn

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