

## John Tefertiller Health Update - 5 June 2010

Greetings Friends and Family:

Things are finally beginning to take shape regarding the completion of treatments and procedures. The Roller Coaster may at last be coming to a halt.

### Medical Procedures and Stolen Cars

I have had a consultation with a surgeon at Stanford Hospital, and we are embarking upon the last series of scans, probes and tests before the final colostomy takedown surgery. If nothing untoward is discovered in the process, the operation may take place near the end of June or in early July.

Meanwhile, "back at the ranch," so to speak, my 1994 Nissan pickup was stolen last Wednesday night. I asked the police officer who came to take the report why my old vehicle instead of one of the luxury cars surrounding, and he said that small pickups of the era are easy targets for the casual car thief- one who mainly wants transport somewhere. Needless to say, it's another dip on the Roller Coaster that I could have lived without.

### State of Affairs

The lingering side effects from chemotherapy have been both debilitating and, at times, slightly amusing. The adventures of dealing with anything requiring dexterity or fleetness of foot alternate between maddening and laugh-out-loud funny. In fact I have put off writing this newsletter for more than a week because typing is a slow, frustrating process-- lots of backspacing and retyping. God forbid I should drop a coin and have to pick it up! Mostly, I try to step back mentally from the frustration and have a good giggle at my difficulty in doing such everyday tasks as buttoning my shirt. Best not to be in a hurry these days!

Things do seem slightly better the last day or so, but it would be nice to have my hands and feet back sooner than later!

### Next Up

I have already alluded to a possible time frame for the next steps. It is my hope to be recuperated and on my way to physical fitness by this Fall. There is a lot of lost ground to be recovered, as well as new preventive ground to be won.

### Prayer Requests

1. Pray that no further disruptions or delays will push back the final surgery;
2. Pray that the remaining chemotherapy side effects will fade quickly;
3. As I have mentioned in previous updates, there will be residual expenses, and that may now include replacing my transportation. Please continue to seek the Lord's provision for outstanding and upcoming financial needs;
4. Pray as always for God's hand to be seen, even in the difficulties that land upon this path where He has led me.

### Final Thoughts

I want to express again my thanks for every prayer uttered on my behalf. Because of complications that have arisen so often during this season, the prayers of others have been among the most important elements in getting through. As the "light at the end of the tunnel" begins to manifest, it is well for me to remain thankful so that God receives glory not only now, but in retrospect farther down the road-- and needless to say, always.

Keep me in your prayers.

John T.