

## My 2014 Heart Attack as I remember it,

August 15, 2014. My wife, Linda, was staying over at the son's house minding the boys while they were away. I woke up at 0615, real early for me as my normal wake up time is 0715. My pajama top was soaked with sweat and I felt a heavy pressure on my chest. My Boy Scout training on hurry cases focused on heart attack symptoms, chest pressure, profuse sweating and numbness on left side, ( I will never forget) so I used my right hand and slapped my left elbow. My right hand felt the elbow but the elbow did not feel the slap. I called 911.

After identifying myself and location, the woman asked me if I had any Aspirin and if so to take one. She stayed on the line while I did. Then she said that Mint Hill EMS was on their way and what door shall they use. I told her the back door by the chimney as I would be on the sofa nearby and I went and unlocked the door. I sat on the sofa looking out the window to the front and she said "they are in front of your house". I looked out and they were backing in the driveway. They came in the room and the woman on the phone said "I will hang up now" and did.

I was placed on a stretcher and wheeled out to the Ambulance. In a short time we pulled up to the Emergency room of Presbyterian Hospital ( now Novant). On the way they hooked me up for an EKG.

When we arrived at the Hospital. One of the medics handed a Doctor the EKG strip as I was wheeled into a room, I remember that Doctor handing it to a tall Doctor who quickly looked it over and said "Don't stop, take him up" so out of the room I went and into the elevator, out of the elevator on some floor and in to a big room and put on a big table. I was stuck with a needle and went to sleep.

I woke up in a regular room, the clock on the wall showed 0820. My phone was on the tray and I picked it up and called my wife. As I was telling her what happened, the Doctor (who said take him up), grabbed the phone, said "He had a heart attack and will be fine" and hung up. We chatted a few seconds and he left. He told me they put a stent in the LDA (the widow maker, he said) and it may have been caused by a clot from my knee surgery last month.

After he left, I called my wife and told her the whole story.

I have had checkups every 6 months with a cardiologist and this year (2024) he is retiring so I will see someone new.

Doctor Dowdy, who implanted the stent is still in business.

Ten years next month and I have had no issues since.

Bill Heybruck July 24,2024