

November 8, 2011

Dear Family and Friends,

We have been busy with Matt's new outpatient schedule. Tuesday, October 11, was the discharge day after being inpatient for 6 months. It was nice to have doctors and nurses come by to send him off with hugs and applause. The daily schedule can vary but there are appts. during the day along with hyperbaric treatments. Monday – Friday mornings we travel to Georgetown University Hospital for a two hour treatment. The process with travel takes about 4 hours. The army has been providing transportation for which we are thankful. We check in with the nurse case manager once a week for new appts. with doctors, prosthetic or whoever.

Matt's health is improving. There are times when he feels he hasn't improved much but there is a lot to be thankful for. A couple of weeks ago he had an infected pin removed. That particular spot is still giving him some problems. The bone graft that was done September 30 is not healing like we hoped it would. Dr. Gordon, the ortho. doc, said it was not generating new bone growth yet. We had hoped with the hyperbaric treatments there would be considerable bone growth. The good news is the calcaneus is looking much better. Doctors are pleased with the progress of the wound. There is new tissue growing, blood vessels, and coverage starting over the bone. It still has a ways to go but after 22 treatments this is very good news.

We would ask you to pray for the continued healing of the wound, bones and overall health. Matt and I would like to come home for Christmas. We are hoping he will not have the wound vac, be infection free and the wound will be closed by then. That will make getting home easier. Thank you for remembering us in your prayers.

We are thankful for each of you, and for the people we have met while we have been here. God continues to bring people into our lives to bless us. Some days it seems to take a lot to find a blessing but every day there is a gift from our heavenly Father. Some days it is the colors of the leaves, an encouraging word from you, a smile or hug from someone.

Praying you will be blessed today with a sunset, a walk in the falling leaves, a smile, a hug, encouraging word, a cup of coffee with a friend and the presence of our Heavenly Father. Whether we are on the mountain top and things are going well, or climbing the mountain and struggling for our safety line, we can humbly bow and thank the Lord God Almighty. He is the same God through all times. His mercy and grace extend to each of us in all circumstances. It doesn't matter where we are in life or what we have or haven't done. His unconditional love is a gift. May you experience that love fresh and new today.

Love & Blessings, Dave and Debbie Stubblefield

Our new address: Matthew's B-day is November 19 if you want to send a card. He'll be 20.

PFC Matthew Stubblefield

Warrior Transition Battalion

Box 50015

8901 Wisconsin Ave.

Bethesda, MD 20889