
WELCOME TO OUR HOPE PROJECT'S

Newsletter

We're so glad you're here!

What we are about.....

HOPE!

This newsletter aims to bring hope and joy to your daily life by sharing my family's journey through unexpected challenges. We firmly believe that a positive outlook, faith, and the right circle of friends will help you tackle any obstacle with resilience and a smile. In the upcoming editions, we will candidly share our recent experiences dealing with Parkinson's Disease and Esophageal Cancer.



Meet the Parker Family

From left to right- my wife, hero, and best friend, Trina. My oldest daughter, Grace. My youngest daughter, Anna. I (Nick), the content creator, and editor.

Mine the Gold-Look for Good.

By any stretch of the imagination, Parkinson's Disease and Cancer are not pleasant in and of themselves. Like my friend and fellow Marine, Tim Lee, reminded me, last week, "Romans 8:28 is not a cliché"

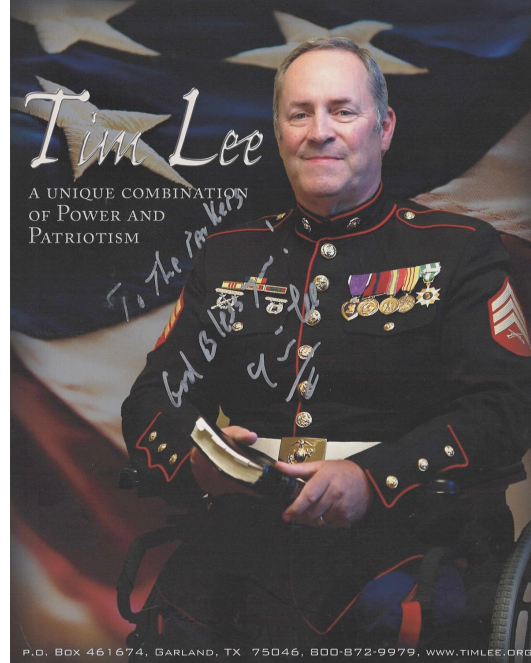
And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Romans 8:28 NLT

Without telling Tim's (Sgt Lee's) story, he stepped on a land-mine in Vietnam and lost both legs above the knee. In his book, Born on the Fifth of July, he tells the story of how he chose a path of being better, not bitter, and the effect that it has on his



daily life.



Sergeant Tim Lee

We all know someone who has allowed a circumstance to drag them down the dark hole of bitterness and cynicism. As with most things that do not end well, the bitter and critical are the easy path at the beginning but end in a miserable life. As a former critic, "negative Nick", it doesn't take much of a person to focus on what is obviously bad or ugly in me, in others and in the world. It would have been easier to throw in the towel when the cancer attacked my body. After all, I lost around eighty pounds, my skin tone was ash grey, and one doctor said only one of two people would live a year and be cancer-free with this type of cancer. Chemo certainly lived up to the horrific stories I heard and the nine-and-a-half-hour surgery was just a ton of fun. The unplanned medical retirement and career "change" loomed dark on the horizon as well. Did I mention Parkinson's? I recall these not to compare my junk to your junk but so we don't compare junk at all. If you choose to "look for good and mine the gold" from **your** unique circumstance, then you too, WILL become light in the darkness in a way that only you can!

The world has enough darkness and negativity! Why would I enlist for that kind of life? Why should you? **YOU SHOULDN'T!** Either cancer would cast it's shadow over me, or, God and I would cast our shadow over cancer.

MCRD Parris Island w/ Adam Akers. We attended Chapel with **Tim Lee Ministries**.



Thought of the day

“When a person goes through trauma, the average person’s perspective is, what did you lose? Rarely will a person’s perspective be, what did you Gain or what did you learn?”

Inky Johnson



Coming Next Week

Lessons learned (continued)

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