



Hello, my name is Lindsay Johnson. 10 years ago, on September 11, 2010, my life changed forever.

My husband, Patrick "PJ" Johnson was killed in a motorcycle accident, when a drunk driver went through a stop sign. I was driving behind him and witnessed it. No words can accurately capture the horror of that evening. My mind went straight to our 2 small children that were sleeping soundly at home, having no idea that their whole world had also completely changed forever. Their daddy was gone in an instant and I was suddenly a single Mom. PTSD and anxiety have certainly become a part of who I am.

PJ and I met when I was just 14 years old, we were next door neighbors. After High School, he went off to the Marines, where he served 4 years and came home in 2001. We were married in 2006, and had our son Riley in 2007 and our daughter Zoey in 2010. PJ served proudly as a Lowell police officer, and was respected greatly by the community, his fellow officers, and friends. Though we were only married 4 years at the time of the accident, we had been together for 14 years, which had been half my life. Our son was 3 years old, our daughter almost 5 months old, and I was a 28-year-old widow who had lost her best friend.

Just days after the accident, I was told that someone by the name of Erin Lynch had been tirelessly trying to get in touch with me. I heard it had some relation to Greg Hill and his morning show on WAAF. At this point the foundation was brand new and I would only be their second beneficiary, so we had no clue what to make of it. My Dad was a little bit protective at that point, (understandably so) and Erin and I still joke about it to this day, but she didn't give up trying to contact me. When she finally did, she explained The Greg Hill Foundation to me and told me that they were holding an on-air auction to help my family the next day. Although at the time, I was in a fog, I was still so appreciative. I had a check in my hand a few days later. It was amazing to know that I wouldn't have to worry about finances while my world had been flipped upside down. On top of that, to know that complete strangers were willing to help us through this devastating time, was just a very heartwarming feeling. GHF embodies support and healing and a real community and family has emerged from some of the worst situations.

Not long after that, I would hear from Erin again. They were holding their very first event, and not only were they inviting me and my entire family- they asked me if I could share my story. Again, Erin and I joke about it to this day, how my immediate answer was no- of course I can't do that... but after a few days of thinking about it, I changed my mind. I couldn't help but think that by me sharing my story, I could help someone else. Since then, it has become my mission to spread the word about this foundation and the work that they do and the impact that they have had on our life.

This is exactly what sets The Greg Hill Foundation apart from so many other foundations that are out there. You have the opportunity to meet the people you have helped, and the people who have helped you. After being a recipient of this amazing foundation, I wanted to help and be as involved as I could be, if it meant helping someone whose life was falling apart just like mine had. I have since become a board member, and I am always willing to share my story if it helps get the word out about our mission at GHF.

Becoming a beneficiary of the foundation and receiving such love and support from a community such as GHF has allowed me to grieve without financial struggle. It's given me a means to work on healing and raising our children and even finding love after loss.

Today, my children are 13 and 10 years old. They are thriving in school and in their sports/activities. I could not be prouder of the people that they have become. They are also aware of the impact The Greg Hill Foundation has had on our lives - and have joined me at some of the events over the years. I have owned 2 very successful salons over the last 10 years, and own a home with my fiancé Ryan and our 4 kids.

Since I have been a beneficiary, the Foundation has been able to help so many others like me. In 10 years, the foundation has donated over \$10,000,000 to 7,533 individuals and families. Seeing their impact first hand I urge you to help them help others like me. Please consider making a donation to support local families touched by tragedy and help become the hope that families need in their darkest times.

Lindsay Johnson