

# *God's Intervention*

## Birthday

True Story

By: Ronald Willis

Many years ago, while working for an awesome man by the name of Van Walton, Town and Country, I was given full range of all aspects of the construction. With Van's connections through his brother William Walton, vice chairman of the board of Holiday Inns, Van had built a reputation of excellent work for a reasonable price.

Van was like a father to me. I knew how to build a house, but Van taught me how to talk to people about their dreams. He had a wonderful way to charge people. He charged people cost plus 20%. It was good for all the parties.

Van constantly had me running from one project to another. I never knew where I was going to be or what I was going to be doing. One very cold snowy night in 1973 I was asked to go with Van to a home way out of town, to work on a generator that was having issues. In the middle of the night we drove out to this very large home where the Russians and the owner of this home had negotiated and sold millions of tons of America's wheat to the Russians. This was not a good place to be, for there were a lot of people mad about the sale.

Van surprised me when we got there! He opened up their refrigerator and began eating their food.

The generator was a huge car engine run by gasoline in the basement of this home working half the time. We decided to run the generator for thirty minutes, to supply the house with heat and then kill the electric in the house. Then transfer the electricity to the heaters in the greenhouse to protect their extensive floral collection.

To make things even worse I had to make the long walk back to the greenhouse in the snow to make sure that the heaters were working. After several hours of dealing with switching the power from the house to the greenhouse we had a company that finally came out to work on the generator to supply enough electricity for both.

Several months after dealing with this situation I was asked to go out to the same house to fix a lock on a racoon cage. Upon arriving to the home the maid escorted me to the wife's bedroom where I could not have imagined a cage with three huge racoons. The maid told me that she had to replace the sheets on the bed every morning because the wife insisted on sleeping with the racoons every night.

I was called there to replace the lock on the door to the cage because the racoons had learned how to let themselves out. First thing I did was to make sure that the racoons would not be able to get out while I was there. My problem was these racoons were very smart. Before leaving one of the racoons bit me. Not thinking much of the incident, all I wanted to do was finish the task and get out of there because it was my father's birthday and we had evening plans.

I drove straight home and took a shower and upon my father's arriving, we left for our dinner engagement. Immediately my father and wife continued to harass me about this racoon bite and wanted me to go in and get a rabies shot. Thinking this might be a good idea to get a shot, my father, his new wife and my wife escorted me to an emergency room. After receiving the shot I literally hit the floor, and after a few minutes, I was determined to get us to the restaurant on time for our reservation.

The Godfather Restaurant was the most prestigious restaurant in town. We had a wonderful dinner. However, even though I had informed the waiter and the maitre d' that it was my father's birthday and that I was to receive the check, the waiter gave the check to my dad, who saw the price for dinner. Agitated at their incompetence, I paid the check, and in doing so I left three pennies as a tip for dinner as we walked out.

After dinner I took my father and his new bride to the Ice Capades show where my father laughed so hard and enjoyed the show so much that tears were coming from his eyes.

We all enjoyed the evening in so many ways! I will never forget that day, for we all got to celebrate my dad's birthday because God blessed me with no problems stemming from the racoon bite.

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It is my sincerest hope that everyone who reads this, will reflect back on his or her own life.  
Let us know how God has intervened in your life!