



Two months ago Ed Daniels and Sally Johnson were involved in a near-fatal accident but are walking around town today thanks to Bot-

sford Hospital's "trauma team" and Carl Stencel, an alert tow truck driver from Redford. (Staff photo by Art Emanuel)

Trauma team saves accident victims

By CRAIG PIECHURA

Ed Daniels technically turned 33 years old yesterday. But he says "when you write the story call me 32 years old" because for a while Daniels lived on borrowed time.

Daniels and his girlfriend, Sally Johnson of 1943 Seminole, Redford Township, were involved in a serious accident Nov. 4 on Seven Mile at Grand River. A station wagon traveling east crossed the yellow line and hit their car head on.

Each car was traveling 40 miles an hour and Daniels was pegged behind the steering wheel with his right foot caught in the crumpled underbody.

Daniels' girlfriend was not trapped inside the car, but suffered a broken ankle and a badly damaged spine. The driver of the other car was cut in the head and required stitches.

Carl Stencel, a tow truck driver for Wall's Sunoco, headed to the accident immediately after hearing about it on the police radio. Once there, Stencel, 2047 Beech Daly, Redford Township, was instructed by police to go to work with the winch to free Daniels.

STENCEL USED the winch to pry the window frame open and when that was accomplished, he worked to pull the steering wheel out from Daniels' chest. Even after the steering wheel was out of the way, Stencel had to pull Daniels' foot out of his shoe, which is still trapped in the floorboard of the wrecked car.

The impact of the crash crushed Daniels' chest cavity and severely slashed his liver.

The Farmington Hills Ambulance rushed Daniels to Botsford General Hospital where doctors on the trauma team worked to pump fluid from his heart and lungs. That fluid bled into the lining around Daniels' heart.

While part of the team worked on Daniels', others worked to repair his

girlfriend, Miss Johnson.

For a while, Daniels could not speak because of all the tubes running through his neck draining fluid and feeding him.

But today, just two months after the accident, Daniels is up and walking around. And one of the first places he went to was Wall's Sunoco—to thank Stencel for saving his life.

"HE DID a real good job," said Daniels. "I don't remember anything after seeing the car cross over into my lane, but needless to say, I'm extremely happy about the quick treatment I received from the guy in the tow truck."

Stencel says Daniels was semi-conscious during the 20 minutes he was pinned in the car.

"He was moving his head, and he responded when I told him to lay down on the seat," said Stencel. "What's strange about the whole thing is that I didn't recognize him at the scene, but when he came in to thank me, I found out I bowled with him on the same league for two years."

Daniels also singled out the trauma team of doctors at Botsford General Hospital for high praise.

He credits Dr. Louis Spagnuolo, Dr. Earl Hecker, Dr. Ellis Siefert and Dr. Raymond Grabowski with saving his life.

"WHEN I CAME IN, they didn't give me much of a chance to pull through," said Daniels. "But they did an utterly fantastic job. All the people who worked on me at Botsford General Hospital were tops. I don't think I could have gone to a better place."

Hills woman stands trial

A Farmington Hills woman charged with first degree murder in connection with the death of her husband was bound over to Oakland County Circuit Court for trial following a preliminary examination Friday, Jan. 9, before District Court Judge Michael Hand.

Mrs. Rose Marie Pettifor, 34, of 33672 Rhonwood in Farmington Hills, is charged with the October 22 murder of her husband, Sidney LeRoy Pettifor.

She pleaded not guilty at her November arraignment and was sent to the Center for Forensic Psychiatry at Ypsilanti State Hospital for examination. Doctors found her competent November 21 to stand trial and she returned before Judge Hand for the preliminary hearing.

Bond was set at \$10,000 and her trial is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 22 in Circuit Court.



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