

My Story

Michael Coss

My name is Michael Coss. I am married, and the proud father of twins, a son named Nathan and a daughter named Danielle. They are now 3 years old.

On May 18, 2006, I was traveling from Vancouver to Kelowna with my wife Ann and then seven-month twins, when catastrophe struck on the Coquihalla and lost control of the van, which rolled over at least one and half times.

Miraculously, my wife Ann and daughter Danielle escaped with only minor injuries, but Nathan and I were not as fortunate. Nathan spent several weeks at BC children's Hospital with head injuries.

When the medical services arrived at the scene of the accident, I was unresponsive, with evidence that the airbags had deployed and I was restrained by my seatbelt. Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) rating at the scene was 8 out of a possible 15, indicating a comatose state.

I was subsequently transported by air to the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops, where I was assessed by neurosurgery, and bilateral ventricular shunts were inserted.



On May 30, 2006, I was transferred to Royal Columbian Hospital to be closer to my family. There, I was admitted to the critical care unit and subsequently transferred to the neurology unit where I remained comatose for several months and was unable to follow commands.

Upon hearing of the accident, my parents flew from Quebec City where they were living, to be by my side.

My injuries were nearly fatal and despite comprehensive treatment at two hospitals, I remained in a coma for six and half months.

Doctors told my family that my chances for recovery were remote. My wife Ann was devastated, facing the challenge of raising our two babies without a father.

Recommendations were made to my family to look for a long term facility to take care of me for the rest of my life. But they did not know Michael Coss.

My family had researched Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) the medical use of oxygen at a level higher than atmospheric pressure. The treatments are used in Can-