

ZOLL®

CASE STUDY

How to Mend a Broken Heart



On the eve of Valentine's Day in Harmony, Minnesota, 69-year-old Larry Torgerson was heading into his garage after walking his dog when he collapsed in front of his teenage grandson.

"I just passed out," says Larry. "I was told later I was pretty much gone."

Larry's grandson ran inside the house to get his grandmother, who called 911. Deputy Dan Dornink of the Fillmore County Sheriff's Office was a few blocks away when he heard the dispatch.

"I was born and raised in Harmony, so I immediately recognized the name and headed to the house," says Dan. "Dispatch said that Larry was on the floor of his garage gasping for air, so I ran in with the defibrillator. I was there in less than a minute."

Seeing Larry's gray complexion and agonized breathing, Dan immediately cut open his shirt and connected the pads of the ZOLL® AED Plus® to Larry's chest.

After quickly analyzing Larry's condition, the AED advised a shock—the first of five—which was delivered within two minutes of the 911 call. Dan then began CPR. He administered four rounds of CPR, following the prompts of the AED's Real CPR Help®, which provides guidance to help rescuers do high-quality CPR. Unique to ZOLL, Real CPR Help guides rescuers to provide CPR that meets the 2015 American

Heart Association Guidelines with prompts such as "Push Harder."

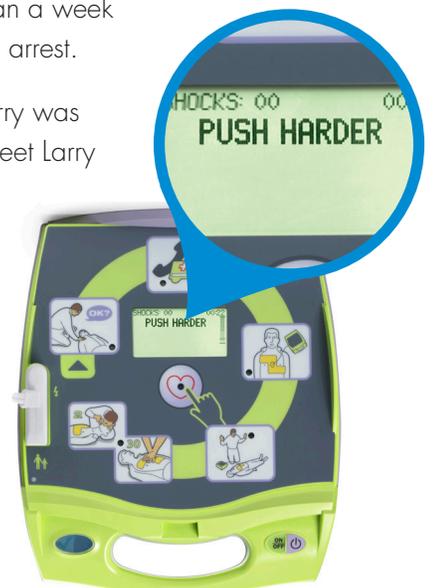
"The prompts were very helpful after the first round or two of single-person CPR," says Dan. "Fatigue can set in quickly and the reminders were great."

The volunteer ambulance crew joined to help four minutes after Dan arrived, following the delivery of the second shock. After the fifth shock, Larry regained a pulse, and the ambulance drove him cross town to meet the Mayo One Helicopter.

Mayo One airlifted Larry to the Saint Mary's Campus of the Mayo Clinic Hospital 50 miles away. There he received an internal cardioverter-defibrillator before he was released less than a week after his sudden cardiac arrest.

In less than a month, Larry was back around town. "I meet Larry on the streets while I'm patrolling almost

The ZOLL AED Plus, the first and only Full-Rescue AED that provides Real CPR Help® for depth and rate of chest compressions, audibly coaches rescuers with prompts that say "Push Harder" or "Good Compressions" during CPR.



"AEDs truly are a lifesaver.... Why would you go without an AED?"

Fillmore County Sheriff Tom Kaase

weekly," says Dan. "We share a friendly wave. I'm happy just to see him out driving around, and it can make a bad day seem not so bad when I run into him."

"The community around here is pretty close," says Larry. "I'm definitely glad the Fillmore County Sheriff's Office had the equipment. They have good teaching, good help, and I'm glad they have the equipment in their vehicles now just in case."

From 1 to 80 in Three Years

It was not the case until fairly recently that the sheriff's office vehicles were each equipped with an AED.

"In 2011 we had one AED required in jail, and that was pretty much it throughout the county," says Kristina Kohn, human resources officer of Fillmore County, who oversees the AED program. When the county's former chief deputy asked if there was a way to fund one or two AEDs annually for the law enforcement vehicles, Kristina began researching grants online and found one focusing on rural areas.

Fillmore County has lots of hills and bluffs that make cell phone service and access a challenge. "Some of our rural areas are out in the middle of nowhere, and it can take 20 minutes or more, especially in bad weather, to get there," she says.

Kristina and the former county coordinator successfully secured a three-year competitive grant through the Health Resources & Services Administration's Public Assess Defibrillation Demonstration Project.

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The grant for 80 AEDs was administered in three waves. The first wave of 18 equipped the deputy vehicles, and the second and third waves of 30 and 32, respectively, focused on making sure the county, city, community, and public buildings all had an AED.

"Equipping the vehicles was our first priority because officers can get there significantly faster than the volunteer ambulance EMTs since they are all over the area," explains Kristina. In fact, one of those AEDs helped to save Larry Torgerson.

"If we waited for emergency personnel to arrive, Larry may not have survived," says Kristina. "The doctors were amazed he made it because of the severity of his sudden cardiac arrest. It was pivotal for the AED to have been in the deputy vehicle. I cried like a newborn when I heard he was okay since this grant was so close to my heart."

"AEDs truly are a lifesaver," adds Fillmore County Sheriff Tom Kaase. "I have seen the 'living and breathing' results in the success of an AED program. Please get them in your squads and your buildings. Why would you go without an AED?"

Larry's broken heart was certainly mended on Valentine's Day, thanks to the helping hands, hearts, and AEDs around his community.



(L to R) EMT Eileen Schansberg, Deputy Dan Dornink, Larry Torgerson, EMT Dan Tieffenbacher, and Fillmore County Sheriff Tom Kaase.

For more information on the ZOLL AED Plus, please call 800-804-4356 or go to www.zoll.com/aedplus.

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