

Pray For Porter

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Scott and Kim Hulme, owners of the Hulme Ranch at Vernon, TX have been sharing on social media following an accident involving two of their sons, Ethan and 10-year-old Porter Hulme:

Hulme Ranch - May 29 at 3:27 PM

To all who have asked – Yesterday, Ethan and Porter were on their way home from Decatur from a ropin' and Ethan blew a tire on the truck. He rolled his truck and trailer multiple times. The trailer came unhooked from the truck. They were in the median on 287. Ethan had his seat belt on and when the truck stopped rolling it was upside down. He was unconscious but came to and got out of the truck as a man ran up and asked if he was ok. Ethan said he needed to find his little brother. Porter was ejected from the truck and underneath it. His arms were both pinned under the headache rack of the truck. He was unconscious.

Ethan and the guy tried to lift the truck off but couldn't. The guy said we can't do this and Ethan said "We have to try!" He would not give up. That's a warrior for you. His back and arms and head full of cuts and full of broken glass, metal and whatever else the roof could offer and he never asked for anything. He lifted and pushed. Within about 75 seconds (the longest 75 seconds of Ethan's life) there were 10 or 12 motorists there, and they all lifted the truck as Ethan pulled his unconscious 10-year-old brother from underneath the one-ton Ford pickup.

Ethan is a warrior and a leader. I don't know what I did for God to Bless me with such wonderful sons but I have sons so much better than I am. A man was there that said he was a fireman, off duty, and to leave Porter alone and he would take care of him till the ambulance arrived. I have no idea who that fireman, was but I owe him my son's life, and I'd like to meet him. Another lady called my wife and informed her and has stayed in constant contact since, a total stranger, and a pure Christian.

Ethan's good black gelding was killed in the wreck but his good bay gelding somehow was out of the trailer and runnin down the median of 287. Ethan was the only one who could catch him. A local rancher picked up the horse and met me in Henrietta. I had been in Whitesboro at a

cuttin. I left as soon as I got the dreaded call. I drove as fast as I could to get there.

In short, Texans saved my sons' lives. Simple motorists who all pitched in to help. Nobody had a care of black or white or republicans or democrats. Americans, Texans, saved my family. There are still good people in the world, and if we defund every politician America will still thrive.

Ethan was released last night. He's sore and beat up. I've hugged him and told him I loved him and it don't feel like enough. I had the longest night of my life praying for Porter. I was literally on my knees, crying, begging God to trade me for him. Begging the lesson to be used with my mortality and well-being rather than my son's. He is too good to go. I kept it pretty quiet and a few of you have been kept in the loop. Uncle Matt Budge, Jeff Darden you were placed in our lives for a reason. My momma's good faith is carrying us through. So many wonderful friends and concerned Christians.

Porter has broken ribs, a broken arm, broken collar bone and a broken shoulder blade and bruised lungs. He's real beat up everywhere and has suffered a broken back in 4 vertebrae.

When the doc felt his legs last night and asked Porter to move them and he said he did and they didn't move our hearts sank beyond the depths imaginable.

I went in the bathroom in the hospital room and was going to puke, and I knelt and prayed. I promised God I would honor His will but to please make my son whole again. Then after I came out and Porter was alone with me I prayed over him again and so that Porter could hear: the doc in Wichita said walking was unlikely.

They couldn't life flight home due to a lightning storm, and they had to bring on an ambulance from Decatur to Wichita and then run him to Fort Worth. Kim went with Porter and I took Ethan home. Kimberly Hulme and I were on the phone all night every time a doctor came in. We got the MRI done. Jeff came and gave Porter a blessing with us and the surgeon just told us that he'll walk. A fraction

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of a millimeter different and he wouldn't have. Where he was laying under the headache rack and the truck he was not supposed to survive. (My sister Natalie said to expect miracles. I've begged God all night and day. He is merciful.)

So many to immediately be there to lift a truck off him. His grandpa's arms around him the entire time. If you have ever doubted angels or God you need to be thankful that you ain't never been in a situation in life so bad He was the only one to turn to. This is going to be a long long road to recovery.

Once the enzymes in his liver and kidneys stabilize, we can get closer to surgery. I will tell you that prayers will never ever fail. I've been constantly praying and loving my sons all night. My poor wife is doing her best. This is all we really have that we care about.

The police did tell me Ethan handled the whole wreck like a pro. They said reckless and speed were NOT a factor and it was pure physics. I'm so proud of Ethan for how he handled this. Porter is asleep finally and hopefully out of some pain for the moment. God bless the first responders and the doctors.

God bless all those who stepped in to help, from both sides of the veil. I'm having a hard time trying to type through teary eyes in a hospital room watching my son sleep on the couch next to his brother on the hospital bed.

My heart is Broken for Porter and his suffering and my heart aches for Ethan going through the pain of seeing his little brother pinned under a truck and not being able to fix it. And yet being the one to pull him out and save him.

The fasting and praying is felt. Please keep praying. It helps. My family is everything to me.

Chad Bushaw, All the Skinner family. The Brock Family, Wayland Long and so many others, thank you... I can't name you all so I'll just say thank you and please keep praying. We have a long way to go. Pray for Porter!



Hulme Ranch - May 31 at 8:25 PM

Ethan worked hard to save his money and bought his own truck and trailer with cash. He has bought his own horses with his own cash. Saturday when he and Porter were headed to the ropin it was a childhood dream of theirs to load up and chase gold buckles together. They listen to Chris LeDoux and the Saddle Boogie Band.

Ethan lost nearly everything he owned in that wreck, including a good black gelding. Yesterday we stopped at the crash site and looked around. We found the Chris LeDoux tape but it was broken. There were a few other tapes we found and a rope glove. Ethan found \$40 form some of the cash he'd won that day in the grass. The whole scene made my skin crawl.

That night we stopped at the gas station in Iowa park Texas to get a drink. I bought us each a bottle of water for \$2. A lady walked in and asked where she was. The gas station attendant said Iowa Park. The lady said she got lost and was out of gas and only had \$2. And needed to get to Burk Burnett. Right as the gas station attendant handed me the \$18 Change from the \$20 I gave her I turned around and handed it to the lady. Just then Ethan whipped out the only \$40 he had and gave it to her as well. He just lost everything he had, except his little brother who he saved and is in the hospital fighting for his life.

The lady near fell to the ground thanking us and you could tell \$58 was a lot to her.

When we got out to the truck I told Ethan he didn't have to do that because I already gave her some and he said "Dad, so many people have given us help and support. I just wanted to help to. We're all in the same boat."

His example and kindness is honorable. Everyone needs a hero and my kids are my heroes.

It wasn't much but we have the lady every dollar we had on us, knowing God will provide a way. Gods way is through His people. Y'all people.

I have learned that no matter how much bad is in the world I still believe that the good is more.

I'm grateful to the Lord for sparing my sons lives and we will pray and get through this.

I've not stopped praying or thanking God for all of YOU. God bless and Pray For Porter!

Hulme Ranch - June 1 at 12:17 AM

Today Porter got his "brace of armor" he was so excited!!!! He can only wear it for 30 minutes then off for hours. He got to sit up @ 30*, drank 1/4 of cup of broth (the most he has ate since Saturday right before the accident). A lot better day than yesterday!!

It's after midnight and it finally dawned on me that I've been wearing the same clothes for 4 days and haven't had a shower. The back n forth n sittin by the bed and waiting and watching my son go through this is hell. I'll live through about anything but I want my sons to be healthy. Kim and Ethan have been by my side as we watch Porter. I've never seen two brothers love each other so much.

Porter was much more cheerful this evening and that's

because he got to talk with Uncle Matt Budge. Good friends are irreplaceable. Still a long ways to go. With all of y'all's prayers every day is special!!!! Thank you all so much for everything! Pray for Porter!



Hulme Ranch - June 1 at 12:43 PM

Porter and his bear. He said the bears name is Grizz. He's in a lot more pain and discomfort today. The pain and swelling are moving around a lot. He is more alert than he's been.

He's asked when we can leave and when he can ride a horse. It's gonna be a

while yet but I told him he can ride whenever he feels like it.

I watch and stress and worry, but he's still here and I'm grateful for that. The key to blessings is gratitude. The blessings come from God through his people. Y'all people! Thank you so much for the prayers and support.

Kim got a message today from a lady in Gainesville that's unemployed and living in her car and wanted to donate for medical expenses. We told her to take care of herself first. That lady has a heart of gold. You people are so good and gracious to us.

As we get closer to surgery we'll need your prayers. We're planning a big fast on Sunday before the surgery on Monday. Fasting without prayer is starvation. Prayers work. We love y'all. Pray for Porter!



Hulme Ranch - June 1 at 2:58 PM

He can finally eat some pudding. I'm by his side, and every time a nurse comes in he asks me to hold his hand. The prayers and support from y'all people across the world have melted our hearts. I told porter of a lady that made some t shirts that read Pray For Porter and he said "she sounds like a nice person."

Thanks to Matt Budge for taking Ethan under his wing today and helping us out.

Galatians 6:2. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Kimberly Hulme - June 4 at 5:16 PM
Prayforporter update, Day 6

Today has been a busy day. Lots of Doctors in and out, pain/neuro specials. When the accident first happened his back is where all of his pain was at. The broken arm still does



Porter with his dad, Scott

not hurt. Stitches in his arm were never an issue. Broken collar bone has slight discomfort. Broken shoulder blade slight discomfort. Broken ribs slight discomfort. It was his legs and feet the past week that were excruciating.

When I say slight discomfort, I mean they are at a pain level 3-5. When asked about his pain level he has always said maybe a 2-4. I had a good talk with him about how it was okay to be in pain and he needed to tell us exactly how bad it hurt to help get the correct management. Now he is calling his pain more like a 6 out of 10. have changed, added, increased pain management medication. Proud to say his legs and feet are finally in not as much pain. A sheet touching them was very painful. So glad that they are not painful. But now the back pain is back. The ribs today and shoulder blade are a lot more painful yesterday and today. Muscle cramps are setting in and causing a lot of discomfort.

Today as the 2 nurses and I sponge bathed, unwrapped medicated, rewrapped wounds if was quite taxing on him. Changing all of his bedding, putting on his "chest of armor" the TLSO took a lot of time. It took us 2 1/2 hours to complete it all. Every movement is well though out, slow, correct, painful, stressful and many more emotions. Trying to keep Porter comfortable, deep- slow breathing, and emotionally sound is quite hard. He hurts. He's scared, he's emotional about everything that goes on. He tries to be strong and brave, but has to breakdown sometimes, and that's okay. After all of that he ate a string cheese and a half a cup of applesauce. He was exhausted, and hungry because that is the most he has ate since being here at

one meal. He will drink but food has been a struggle to get down him. I am blessed that I am able to help Porter anyway I can. Our family is blessed to have all of you praying! Almost one week down. Only 3-4 weeks more hopefully!!!! #Prayforporter

Melanie SmithSolo Select Horses LLC: Cow Horses & Prospects - June 5 at 1:33 PM

Where do we even start? The horse community is INCREDIBLE. Over 1,000 bidders and 250 donors made THIS happen. Thank you all for banding together to support this family. YOU ALL did this! Thank you to Clay Reynolds and Tori with His Cavvy Foundation for helping put this together. Logan Brumfield.. you are a saint for letting me put this on you spur of the moment, and getting everything up quickly!

Whether you donated or purchased a \$50 item or \$10,000 item, you are all equally important in this benefit. We hope this goes a very long way with the Hulme Ranch family, and if it covers all the costs and there is some left - we know they will pay it forward to the next person in need in our community.

If you want to donate, you can do so here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/medical-help-for-porter-hulme>



Hulme Ranch- June 6 at 1:31 PM

Payton Hulme got into the ranch at about midnight last night. I was glad to have him home for a few days. Payton is graduated from high school and college by the age of 21 and lives with my momma in Idaho where he shoes horses and day works for a livin. He come down to help us while his brothers are on the mend. Payton is as solid as a rock and faithful as anyone. I'm proud of him. I'm very grateful he's our son. He always pitches in to help and is a selfless servant to all.

Kimberly Hulme - June 6 at 8:58 PM

Surgery at 7:00 CST tomorrow (Tuesday). Let's all pray for the surgeon and his staff that they have steady hands and that every goes as planned or better. Pray that Porter will feel at ease and relaxed before the procedure. Y'all are amazing!!!!!! Truly Gods Children!

Hulme Ranch - June 7 at 8:44 AM

Porter went in for surgery about 8:00. I stayed with him while Kimberly talked to the surgeon. The surgeon was

not that optimistic. He said Porter tried hard to move legs and push against the pressure. There is some spinal cord damage and he'll fuse 9 vertebrae together from the L3 to the T7. The surgeon said he can't guarantee that Porter will walk again.

We've already witnessed miracles. We've already shown folks that God does exist. We've already shown everyone how we will band together and pray for healing and miracles. Jeff Darden came last night and Porter received a beautiful blessing. I'm trying to act strong and optimistic because I promised the Lord I'd honor His decision. Porter will do so much good in the world when he can walk again. I've never publicly asked for prayers until this week and everyone far and wide has poured their hearts out. Daniel entered the lions' den with no fear. Porter was scared this morning. I kept reassuring him there was nothing to be frightened of and that I loved him. I've got to stay strong for Kimberly and my sons. This will be an 8 hour surgery followed by months to years of therapy. I'm not sure how we're gonna pull it all off but God will provide a way. It's hard being apart as a family. It's hard not being able to be together because of stupid government regulations. But as my good brother Jake Gilbert said His will won't take me where His grace can't protect me. I love you all. I love my family and I dearly love Porter. #PrayforPorter

Hulme Ranch - June 7 at 9:34 AM

Second update on Porter. His right arm was broken and there was also a puncture wound. The last couple days the wound has been infected. They discovered this, this morning as they started and immediately stopped. They can't do a back surgery with the infection there. I'm not sure why this came about but I feel God has a plan in all this and I'm trusting in His guidance and the delivery of His Miracles. I knelt and prayed hard in the room right before they came and told me that. We're guessing now the back surgery is 5 to 7 days away. After which there will be months of every day therapy and years of continued treatment and therapy. This has been the most difficult thing our family has ever gone through. Bottom line, if you're gonna love somebody hold 'em as long and as strong as you can til you can't. I love you all and our merciful God will fix this. Thank you to my Heavenly Father for him and Ethan still being here. #PrayforPorter

Kimberly Hulme - June 9 at 6:56 PM

Day 12 update #PrayforPorter

Pain is very manageable right now. He says maybe a 2-3. His spirits are good. During his sponge bath today Porter finally showed his funny personality to the two nurses. They were laughing at him. I bet today we seen 7-8 different doctors and 1 dentist. His culture from his arm today showed 3 different strains of infection. So that was a downer. But the wound looked great and is already beginning to heal. Two of the Doctors came just for him

arm and the infection, one in the morning and one this afternoon. A special wound nurse came, medicated and changed his bandage. They are even putting on a special aluminum infused bandage to help promote healing. They did change is antibiotic this afternoon to specifically treat these strains of infection, for quicker and a more effective healing. He will be on that for 7 days. His blood cultures still look great with nothing growing. Thank goodness, that was the one I was stressing about. I didn't want something in his blood circulating ready to attack somewhere new. They will still check both cultures every day to make sure they don't change, and if they do they can change medicines. We are out of confinement. If he felt he wanted to take his bed down stairs he could. But all the little bumps and door frame seams hurt, so that likely won't happen. Porter still can only go up to 20 degrees on his bed, but mostly stays at 0. That's where he is most comfortable. He got a visitor day. It was great for him to interact with something other than a human. His new friend is Steve and he is a 4-year-old golden doodle. Steve has been a service dog for over 2 years. Surgery is up in the air still, which is fine, I want everything in his body perfect. I do not want any added risk. Could be in 7 days, one Doctor said it should be as far out as 14 days. We are just playing everything by ear. Thank you all for the continuing prayers, y'all are amazing still!!!!

Hulme Ranch - June 11 at 8:45 AM

We appreciate all the help and support from everyone to try and get my sons life back on track. We're very hopeful that he'll walk again and be just like he used to be, for the most part. The doctor told us he'd never release him to ride a horse again. The surgeon told us he doubted he'd walk very well again. But we are determined to show everyone that God will see us through and show the world their prayers were heard and that Porter truly is Gods miracle and blessing. No matter what I have tried to do in my life, being a father is the greatest thing I can be. Most of you can understand and those of you without children can't. I never understood it until I became a father myself. The millions of dollars this will cost will be hard but with God there is a way. Thanks y'all.

Kimberly Hulme - June 11 at 8:13 PM

Update: Day 14. #PrayforPorter

At 8:41. I got the call 2 weeks ago that I never want to get again. One son trying to keep himself together the other unconscious. Nightmare to say the least!!! Fast forward to today. I've tried keeping everyone updated the best I can. Right now we are just still waiting. No news no surgery date. The infection in Porter's arm will determine that. Still no growth in the blood!!!! Surgeon said yesterday they would probably wait the 7 days of antibiotics and then do surgery 3-4 days after that. Just to make sure there were no risks. Today he stopped by and said still no date set, he was waiting for the Ortho surgeon (infection doctor) who

will also assist in the back fusion surgery to give him the go. Nurse just told me they would be by tomorrow to look at the arm. Guessing it will be around the 20-25th. So as soon as I know, I will let y'all know. Porter is stable, has slight high blood pressure, but with everything considered doing good. Thanks for the constant prayers!



Photo of Porter the day of the accident

Hulme Ranch - June 11 at 10:03 PM

I worked til 5:00 tonight and then jumped in the truck and drove to the hospital in Ft. Worth. I stopped at the crash site again along 287 near mile marker 368 to look for Porters belt buckle he won and the knife he lost. He still don't know they are gone. The feeling I got there was so overwhelming and humbling. Every time I go by I get the feeling, but as I look at the ruts in the grass and see the broken glass and head light and bumper pieces I get sick. Sick because I think of the wreck and the fear they experienced as the truck began to roll and they lost control. The fear Ethan went through as he saw his brother's feet sticking out from under the truck when he crawled out of the cab. One boy was in shock. One boy was unconscious. Angels we're there. God's army.

I got the hospital bills for just Wichita, the place they took the boys for only 4 hours and it was more money billed in the 4 hours than I make in a year. The big bills from Ft Worth are stackin up, and I ain't got one from there yet but I'm quite certain men in my profession can't fathom those kinda numbers.

I'm just grateful they're alive.

I kinda get to feelin like a bad dad sometimes over this deal. I wish I wouldn't have been at a cuttin and coulda hauled them to the ropin myself. I wish I coulda been behind the wheel and maybe I coulda controlled it. 6 feet to the east would have missed the rock that caused the roll and it would just been a grassy slide off. It's hard for me to wrap my head around still. Why can't I fix my son? Why wasn't I there?

How has it already been two weeks ago, and I can't believe it's been two weeks. Wayland Long told me right after the accident that the fact that we are in control is a total illusion.

God is in control. 6 feet to the east or 100 feet to the west would have not made the truck roll. The 3 foot flat rock that stuck out of the ground just enough to catch the tire was the most life altering piece of the earth in my life.

I'm here with my son tonight, and I'm reading him a book

tonight. I brought him and ma dinner and we ate as a half a family. I want us all to be together again and at home. Surgery will be in maybe 9 or 10 more days. It seems like forever away. And then the therapy starts.

I guess I'll just be grateful they're alive and figure out the bills, and the life adjustments as we go. I'm still in shock and panic mode all at the same time. I'm grateful He spared my sons because when I walk into room 5122, and he sees me come in the door and his cute little voice says 'hi dad' in an excited tone, it gives me hope. Thank you, Porter, for restoring hope in prayer to this nation. #PrayforPorter

Hulme Ranch - June 13 at 8:53 PM

A full moon over the plains of Texas Reminds me of His promise, and that He is in control. It reminds me that an honest man will have nothing to hide and a hard-working man will one day sit at His feet with a smile.

I pray to the Lord for the return of my sons health and well being. And I believe he will restore it. I've learned who my friends are and who they are not. Total strangers who I've never know In who have poured out their hearts while folks I've known for years haven't ever called.

There's been many who are trying to take advantage of our situation and there's been many trying to help us. I just know that His promise, that He will one day return, is what keeps me going. I may not be at the front of the line but I know that one day, in the eyes of God, the last will be first and the first will be last. No man can serve two masters.

Kimberly Hulme - June 14 at 6:38 PM

Update: Day 17. #PrayforPorter

OT came said after surgery they will be doing PT/OT therapy 2 times a day 6 days a week for ??????. His Surgeon came and said Monday will be surgery, not sure on a time yet, he has another surgery before Porter's. He told me not to stress, he would be fully able, alert and not tired to perform Porter's 8-hour surgery.

He told Porter a motivational story, lifting Porter spirits. He really connected with Porter today and I really appreciated it. He told the nurses how his second favorite meat was Rabbit. Steak was first. Talked about what he has hunted and how he loves to fish. He is all boy!

Porter got messing on his tablet and was really quiet. I asked him what he was doing, he said, "Looking up the market report from Wichita Livestock." Ya can't keep this kid down!!! He loves to go to the sale barn. He checks out the cows, knows the current market and eats up every minute. I am so proud of his mind set right now. He has to stay positive, it was a huge concern of mine. But as long as he can feel like he is still the same kid and can do anything, he can and he will!!!!

Hulme Ranch - June 15 at 11:12 PM

Me and Payton and Ethan had a dinner of home made

cheeseburgers and tater tots. We had no cell phones at the large table I built by hand from pine wood planks. No distraction just good conversation . We discussed good western movies. I told them my favorite John Wayne movie was Chisum. We had dinner more as cowboy friends. I'm proud of them.

I will say that without Kim and Porter here it's just not the same and I get lonely for her at night. Most nights I'm tired and fall asleep in my recliner. My bed just ain't right with her not there.

I am headed to Ft Worth again tomorrow to spend the night with her and Porter. I miss my family being together. When I'm home I just want to work. It's all I know what to do and the horses are good for my soul.

I hope we can get this all behind us. My prayer over dinner tonight was of thanks. And I am thankful for our great and simple life. I just miss my wife and son being home. I don't understand how some dads can just walk away. #PrayforPorter



These brothers have not been together since the wreck. It was a joyous reunion. I can't say anything more than my heart is full. It's pretty emotional for me. - Scott Hulme

Hulme Ranch - June 17 at 9:00 AM

I brought Porter his mail for the last couple days. 42 letters from all over the country. He loves letters. Absolutely loves them. Many were in beautiful cursive handwriting from thoughtful grandmothers. I remember my grandmothers had beautiful handwriting too.

If you want to send Porter a letter he'd love to hear from you. Send them to him at 9315 CR 106 W, Vernon Texas 76384.

Hulme Ranch - June 20 at 10:28 AM

Porter went into surgery about a half hour ago. We got the boys in the room this morning and were able to say a family prayer together before he went down to the surgery room. We're praying. We've been humbled by the Lords people and are grateful for everyone's support.

This will be the longest 8 hours of my life. Fusing 9 vertebrae is a major task. I'm hoping the Lord will restore my son to his full health. I pray for a full recovery. I don't know why this stuff happens.

I told my mom that I wish God didn't have to use my son to teach me a lesson. My mom said He used His son to teach us all a lesson. My momma always has good answers.

When she put it like that I knew I'd never look at a cross the same way again. His sacrifice was eternal and for all of us. One thing I'm sure of is that faith without works is dead.

I apologize to those I haven't contacted or returned calls to. I get fairly reclusive and have a lot on my plate. All the runnin back and forth and tryin to make sure I provide a living a support for my family is wearing on me. Pray for my son. I'll forever pay this forward. Your blessings are felt. I'll keep praying for a smooth surgery. #PrayforPorter

Hulme Ranch - June 20

The surgery went as the doctors expected and they got the fusion from his L3 to his T7 done. He's now in the ICU. When he was in the ICU a couple weeks ago he had a nurse he loved named Garrett from Parker county. They would talk about hunting and cowboy stuff. When Garrett heard Porter was back in the ICU he come on board and said he was taking care of Porter. It made Porter very happy. I can't thank the staff enough for the care they give that can't be taught.

We had a lot of people telling us to go to other hospitals, but we are glad we stayed here because of people like Garrett. The surgery nurse said Porter requested George Strait as he wa seeing prepped for surgery and they loved that he's all cowboy.

Today has been hard for me as I hoped and prayed all day for a good surgery. While it's a long ways from over and we have months and possibly years of recovery my son is alive and come out of surgery as they expected. The Lord has blessed me and he has heard YOUR prayers too.

I do know that my darling wife is stronger than me and will never stop or leave his side until they can come home. I love you Kimberly Hulme. The long painful road to recovery starts now and while it'll be hard we know that God makes all things possible. I love you Porter. I love y'all too. #PrayforPorter

Hulme Ranch - June 21

Last night as I was driving home I was tryin to still wrap my head around all this. Headed west on 287 somewhere around the Wise county line I took this picture. Just a little ranch with a windmill and a sunset. I had to pull over and sit there a second. George Strait was on my radio and The song Somewhere down in Texas was playin at this very moment.

Yesterday was a hard day for me as I spent nearly 8 hours in almost constant prayer. I paced the room at times like a cat in a cage but mostly I sat there pleading with God to be merciful enough to let my son have a chance at life like I have.

The thoughts of them laying my son on a table and cutting him open and putting hardware in him was something I can't hardly deal with. To put total faith in God and the doctor with my son's life was as hard as anything.

I had the worried thoughts of him not waking up or something going horribly wrong or then finding it worse than they thought when they got inside. 8 hours of prayer before we got the call he was done and waking up. The surgery nurse said she knew a few people we knew and that her husband used to rodeo and that Porter requesting George Strait be played was just her style.

This is so hard for me because I've always been able to control what happens. Nobody can mess with my kids. I can always knock somebody out or take things a step farther to insure my children are safe.

This experience has shown me that the idea that I can control everything is just an illusion. There ain't but one person in control and that's God. A kind and merciful God that has spared my son and given me the chance to still raise him. I kinda broke down at this moment on the side of the road as I thought of all the bad things I've done and couldn't understand why He still hears me and why He still blesses me. I've got the best wife I could ever ask for who is tuff as nails and pretty as a field of Bluebonnets and Indian paintbrush in the spring with a sunset in the background. I got good sons who work hard and know what's right n wrong and honor God and their fellow man.

I've always said that at my funeral I wanted Payton to sing The Old Rugged Cross. I've always wondered why my life, although not filled with all the material riches, has been so great. All I need is my family and a good horse and a few cows and I'm happy.

This whole experience is still surreal but I do know it's shown me Gods mercy and His love. And he has done that through miracles and through His people. Y'all people. It's shown me how great my sons are and how perfect and dedicated my wife is. Thankfully they have chosen me and like my grandma Shirley Pitchford they choose to hate the sin but love the sinner. So much has changed and yet his infinite love is still the same. I've felt it time and time again somewhere down in Texas. *AW*

***I will cling to the Old Wooden Cross, and exchange
it one day for a crown... Hebrews 13:15
From somewhere on the plains of Texas.***

Scott Hulme
#PrayforPorter