

Patient Care America IPN Patient Success Story: Donald Belton

Donald Belton has worked for a family-owned lumber and building supply company for more than 30 years. He typically would report to work at 7 a.m., work until close at 5 p.m., and even stay later to get things ready for the next day. In addition, during the summers, he would spend 3+ hours mowing lawns and doing lawn work on the side. He was always great at his job and very appreciated; however, as his kidney disease started to progress, he found himself with absolutely no energy at all.

“You really can’t expect a change overnight,” he said. “But after I while, I started to feel like I had more energy. I just felt better.”

Donald started having a really tough time getting up, and even though he loved his job, he would only think about being able to go home and rest all the time he was at work each day. He started thinking about the possibility of not working at all, and he talked to his kidney center and his employer about the possibility of going to disability. However, he was such a great employee that his employer talked him into reducing his hours, coming in at 7:30 a.m. and leaving at 1:30 p.m. Still, he struggled to get up each morning and often found himself arriving later than he had planned. He just didn’t have the energy to do his job.

Donald’s kidney center was great, though, and suggested that he start IPN therapy. Patient Care America was able to provide Donald with a NutriRite Home™ IPN formulation based specifically on his nutritional needs. However, he said that he didn’t really notice a difference at first.

“You really can’t expect a change overnight,” he said. “But after I while, I started to feel like I had more energy.

I just felt better.” After some time on therapy and his co-worker suffering an injury that forced her to stop work for a bit, Donald went back to working full-time. He would go into his lumber and building supply job and work 8 or more hours, come home and do a dialysis exchange and then still be able to do lawn work for 3 – 3.5 hours per night with the help of his 16-year-old son.

“IPN started to make me feel much, MUCH better,” he added. “I’m so glad for what this has done for me, and the Patient Care America pharmacists are calling me on a weekly basis to answer any questions I have and make adjustments to my medication. It took being on the IPN therapy for close to a year, but there is absolutely no comparison between the way I feel now and how I felt before the IPN.”

In fact, Donald has started sharing his success with others in his community. He recently stopped by his pastor’s home to visit his wife who is also on dialysis.

“I heard she was having trouble, so I wanted to stop by and encourage her,” he said. “It was about 1:30 in the afternoon, and she hadn’t had the energy to get up yet. I remembered feeling like that too before IPN. I gave her Patient Care America’s number and told her to ask her kidney center or physician about IPN. I told her not to look for it to make a change for her overnight, but IPN really has provided me with the energy I need to live my life.”