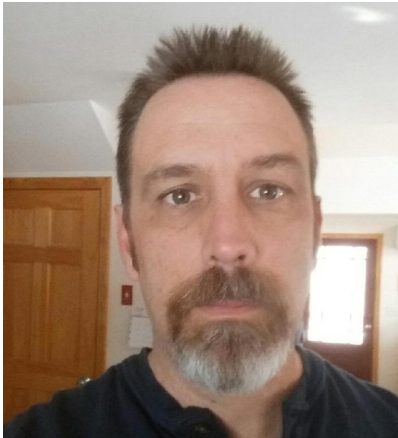


PETER FLANDERS

OCCUPATION: Safety Manager



Peter has been a patient with AtlanticProCare since 2001. Though now he can smile about the irony of a safety manager becoming an amputee because of a work accident, when his leg was crushed, he faced a long a difficult path. Here, he shares his thoughts.

Favorite amputee hacks:

Duct tape! Just kidding. I don't have any real hacks, I just keep everything clean by washing my limb and liner daily.

The worst advice you've received as an amputee:

Someone in a support group I was attending told me "you'll be alright" when I was contemplating amputation. It just didn't seem to take the importance of the decision for me very seriously.

The worst thing about being an amputee:

Relying on a device to provide myself the freedom of walking.

The best things about being an amputee:

It's fun seeing someone's face who's known me for years but did not know I am an amputee. But mostly, it's not living with the pain I endured before amputation.

"I like to mess with able-bodied people by_____."

I used to have a leg where I could spin the foot around. That used to get some pretty good reactions.

If there were an amputee superhero, his or her name would be:

Superman. Spiderman. Captain America. It shouldn't be about the disability, but the ability. Maybe one of them already has a prosthesis.

The best advice you'd give someone facing amputation:

Amputation does not need to be the end of doing the things you like to do. You just have to find a new way to do them.