

MINISTERING TO OTHERS

Harvey Gafford believes in large families that share a lot of love. The 14th of 19 siblings who grew up on a farm near Shreveport, he recalls that happy childhood and has recreated it in his own family. He and his wife Sandra have been together for more than 40 years, and have five adult children and ten grandchildren. As a deacon in his church, he ministers to others in God's family, and hopes his life may serve as an example to others.

A gunshot wound when he was 18 left him with drop foot and partial paralysis of his right leg. His job as a hospital janitor led to further issues, beginning with an infection that took half his foot. Ultimately, recurring infections led to the amputation of his leg below the knee.

He struggled with previous prostheses that gave him "nothing but trouble"—until he struck up a conversation with a stranger wearing a prosthesis, who worked for Snell's and invited Gafford to come by.

"That's how I got started going to Snell's and I've been happy ever since," he concluded. "If the pictures (and my story) help anyone who is going through something similar, that's what I'm all about."



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