

## Bio information for Craig J. Phillips MRC, BA

### Second Chance to Live



My name is Craig J. Phillips. I sustained an open skull fracture and a traumatic brain injury in an automobile accident when I was 10 years old in 1967. I remained in a coma for 3 weeks with right frontal lobe damage, a severe brain bruise with brain stem involvement. I also fractured my left femur. Waking from the coma, I felt like I had a bad dream, but then reality became apparent after feeling the front right side of my skull and seeing myself in traction. I remained in traction for 6-7 weeks to set the femur. I was then placed in a full body cast (Spica) for 5-6 months.

After my left femur healed the Spica cast was removed. I learned how to walk, talk, read, write and speak in complete sentences. I also underwent 2 EEG's and a battery of cognitive and psycho social testing. The results were shared with my parents, but not with me. Once my external wounds healed, the impact of my traumatic brain injury went invisible and was never factored into my struggle (s) in employment and relationships. I was mainstreamed into the 6th grade. I graduated, on time; with my high school class and then went on to college, although the testing done in 1968 showed that I would probably not be able to advance beyond high school.

It took me 10 years to obtain my undergraduate degree (2 universities and one college) and 3 ½ years to obtain my graduate degree (2 graduate schools). I had a long history of getting and losing jobs. I applied for SSDI 3 times (2 times in Florida, 1 time in North Carolina). I was made a client of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation in Florida, while still working as a master level rehabilitation counselor with the Department of Vocational

Rehabilitation. Several month later I was terminated as a counselor.

Several months later I was also terminated as a client of the Florida Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. After getting and losing several more jobs in Florida I was recruited by an insurance company in North Carolina and moved from Florida to North Carolina.

After being recruited as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (Workers Compensation) in Charlotte, North Carolina, I was fired 4 months later. I then applied for services with the North Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. I also applied for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time for SSDI. After the evaluation process was completed, my vocational rehabilitation counselor reported that I was unemployable. Shortly after being deemed unemployable, my 3<sup>rd</sup> application for SSDI was approved at the beginning of 1999.

Nevertheless, I still had a desire to use my gifts, talents and abilities in a way that would work for me. Eight years later on February 6, 2007 I created Second Chance to Live to use my gifts, talents and abilities. Since that time, I have written 1936 articles, 12 eBooks, 434 video presentations, 20 slide show presentations and 36 inspirational posters. Since June 2020 I have given 40 keynote presentations through Zoom. To view a list of these presentations and the locations, click on this link: [Public Speaking](#).

I look forward to being of service to you and your organization through **Second Chance to Live**. To contact me to schedule availability: My email: **secondchancetolive1@yahoo.com**, My phone number: **980 475 8479**.

