

Jan Brown Talks About Family Support

Credit: Produced by Victoria Youcha and Brian King

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Jan Brown: My family has been very, very supportive. And my gratitude is in that that they love me where I am. And they, they realize that I'm not going to do it according to the way, you know, they would like me to do it. And sometimes I think it's really hard for them because I look normal or healthy or well. And so, you know, I can remember through the years going to my mother's house. And I would just go in and I would sit down. And she thought I was lazy and that I wouldn't do anything to be helpful. And so, it was really challenging. And then after my second injury when I got really sick and couldn't care for myself they was very frightened because I would have episodes and seizures and things like that. And, they were in Washington, DC and I was here in Virginia. And I had a partner and caregiver and that was really helpful. But my mom was really often quite frightened. And so, they've been thrilled to watch me come back. And, you know, I had made some vow when I was graduated and I wasn't moving back home no matter what. And so, my willfulness can sometimes be a challenge for them. But, we are still very close and stay in touch with one another quite regularly.