

A Night Without Sleep

By Donna Bishop

Each moment of life does make a difference. The infant's first gasp for air starts the journey to that final breath expelled at life's end. This journey provides a never ending kaleidoscope of things or people, each of which make a difference. A most unlikely thing saved my life and thus I'm pleased to share the mosquito story.

We were expecting our second child with no indication that there was any problem. My first pregnancy had gone so well that the doctor remarked I should have a dozen. That was not my plan but we were pleased to be adding another child to our family. As we prepared for bed that evening, I reminded my husband of my second prenatal examination the next morning. We tucked into bed with every intention of a restful night of sleep. Enter Mr. Mosquito who circled around my head despite all my efforts to ward him or maybe her off. In frustration I climbed out of bed turning on the light to better spot the critter and end his persistent assault upon my being. My husband awakened by the light joined the unsuccessful search. Back in bed we climbed only to have the little pest approach again. This scene was repeated through the long hours of the night. Out of bed, light on, no mosquito, and back to bed followed by a buzzing around our ears.

Morning dawned with the routine of the day underway. I arrived at the doctor's office tired but otherwise feeling fine. After a blood test, the doctor said that something was seriously wrong with the pregnancy and I needed to go immediately to the hospital. Tests were run and numerous doctors spoke to my husband and me but there were no definitive answers. Finally I was prepped for surgery. The surgeons discovered that I was experiencing a very rare type of ectopic pregnancy. The fetus had attached to the aorta of the fallopian tube. As the fetus grew the aorta was ruptured causing internal bleeding. Had I slept that night I would have died in my sleep being suffocated by my own blood.

Our Guarding Angels might just show up as a most tiny pesky insect! On the other hand he might just have been doing what mosquitos do. Either way he made a difference in my life and those who love me.