

10-2-12

The Honorable Shelly C. Chapman

I am a UMWA retiree. I had to retire early at 47 because of my wife's terminal illness. I could no longer work and be safe on my job and take care of my wife.

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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

My wife has diabetes and because of this she lost both of her kidneys yrs ago. In order to stay alive she is on dialysis 3 days a week. Being diabetic she has a lot of infections in her body. We have been going to wound care every week for past 3 months fighting an infection in her foot and arm. She has been operated on by vascular surgeons 21 times in last 3 years to keep her access ports open for dialysis.

My wife had to quit work to take care of our handicapped daughter who passed away in 2007. Thus she is unable to collect disability. It took us 2 yrs after my daughter died to pay off her medical bills.

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Medical bills and prescription drugs are out of sight. My wife is covered by Medicare but they do not pay for everything.

If it was not for my UMWA medical card, prescription drug coverage and my pension we would probably be filing for bankruptcy.

I think its a shame these huge companies are allowed to back out of their obligations leaving people like my wife and me hanging and devastated.

If there is anything you can do to keep this from happening it would mean so much to a lot of people. we are not the only ones it will affect. America is in hard times right now. we don't need more bad news.

God bless you and may the Lord be with you as you make this decision.

The Gary Turner Family

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