

## AED donation saves life at Huntersville park

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HUNTERSVILLE, N.C. (FOX 46 CHARLOTTE) — Some Good Samaritans saved a man's life at a Huntersville park Thursday using an automated external defibrillator put in place by a man who lost his 8-year-old daughter to a heart disease.

"To walk out of the hospital without your daughter, it's unimaginable," said Greg Latini. His eight-year-old daughter, Christina, had myocarditis, a heart disease the family never even knew about. The family turned their pain into purpose, starting "Operation Sweet Tooth." The organization was named after Christina's nickname.

"We use it as our motivation to help with our healing," said Latini.

The Latini family is getting results doing an 8K race every year to raise money to put automated external defibrillators, AEDs, in parks around Huntersville. The device sends a shock to the heart for someone in cardiac arrest.

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On Thursday afternoon, some Good Samaritans used the AED to save a man's life at North Mecklenburg Park, according to officials.

"Just in shock at first. I hardly could contain myself. I told my wife to come over here, and she thought something terrible happened. I read her the email, I cried, she cried, my son was in the middle of playing Fortnite and we told him, and he was like, 'a life was saved,' and gave a fist pump."

The fire department tweeted out that the man was alert when they got to the park. A spokesperson says he was unconscious when they first got the call.

"To know that our daughter lost her heart but we were able to save someone else's just by us paying it forward was just an overwhelming feeling and absolute tears of joy."

Greg says he would like to meet the Good Samaritans and the man whose life was saved at the park.

"We're just helping in this, we weren't the actual heroes. Don't know who they are but blessed that they were there at the right place and the right time."

If you know those Good Samaritans or the man who had the medical emergency at the park Thursday, please reach out to Fox 46. You can send us an email at [newstips46@foxtv.com](mailto:newstips46@foxtv.com).

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