May 27, 2021

Prior to the NHTSA and the DOT allowing LED headlights to be legal, I never have had any light sensitivity. If I was outdoors and forgot my sunglasses it was no big deal. Halogen headlights never bothered my eyes, not even on high beam (though annoying). This all changed when LED headlights started appearing in this area in early 2019. Every exposure would hurt my eyes and make them go blurry or "white out" and cause ocular pain. This was a cumulative effect with every exposure causing my eyes to take longer to recover, from at first seconds, to minutes, to hours, then days. To protect half of my vision, I started closing my left eye when meeting LED headlights, leaving the right eye open. This continued until October 31, 2019, when I met a semi-truck with LED headlights so blinding that after meeting it, my right eye (the one I kept open) never recovered. None of the ophthalmologists I have gone to have been able to come up with a diagnosis with the equipment they have, though they recognize there is damage.

 Since these LED headlights have been allowed, my life has been destroyed and my world turned upside down. I have been forced to live in isolation at night, never going out. My dating life is done. My family life is diminished as I have to leave all family gatherings before dark. My father was diagnosed with terminal cancer in February and there were MANY days I was visiting him and wanted to stay with him through the evening but was forced to leave before dark because of these damned LED headlights. He died April 11, and I can never recover that time lost with him.

When I AM forced to drive in the dark, it is going to, or from work, and the entire trip is filled with fear and trepidation to the point that my heart is in my throat the whole time. How many LED's will I meet? Will I get more vision damage? Will I meet one so bright that I am blinded and have an accident or am killed? Will someone else be blinded and hit me? Will I hit a deer in the road that I cannot see? (Prior to stopping driving at night, I almost had several accidents because of LED headlights). It is so bad that even during the day when it is gloomy and raining and everyone has their headlights on, I feel like I am going to have a nervous breakdown just driving down the road. And I'm not even safe at home. I've been in my yard at night, or cutting the grass at dusk, and have had cars with blinding LED headlights come around the block and nail me right in the eyes. This is a brief summary of what LED headlights have done to my life.