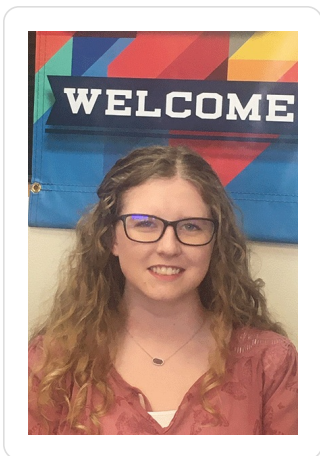




## News

27 April, 2021

# SWOSU Nursing Student to Graduate After Overcoming Horrible Accident



Graduation time this year at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) in Weatherford is an especially happy time for a future nurse.

Janae Adams Taylor, a 2016 graduate of Enid High School and currently a Weatherford resident, has many reasons to smile.

Life was moving along just fine for Janae in the summer of 2019. She had just completed three years of college and her first year of nursing school at SWOSU when tragedy struck. She was traveling to Weatherford from Enid, where she was participating in an internship, for a doctor's appointment. Near Canton, she was hit head-on by a semi-truck.

She was conscious at first and later was told that she was soft-spoken but told first responders her name and other pertinent data before blanking out. To this day, she has no remembrance of saying anything, the wreck and anything that happened in nine days after the wreck.

Janae was taken to the Okeene hospital at first but became unstable. The weather was too bad to medi-flight her, but she was taken by ambulance to OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City.

She suffered a broken neck and spinal cord injury. The family was told that the chances of her ever walking again were not zero but very low. After spending two weeks in Oklahoma City, Janae was flown in a medical plane to a specialty hospital (Craig Hospital) in Englewood (CO).

Janae spent the next two months relearning how to do everything, including walking. Amazingly, she was walking unassisted just two months after the accident.

She asked the hospital staff if she could be a nurse someday and they replied with a definite yes. She was hoping to return to SWOSU in August 2019, but doctors recommended that she needed a year of extensive therapy and recovery. Janae did that and then reapplied to return to nursing school in the fall of 2020.

After a busy summer of 2020, she was able to walk down the aisle to marry her now husband—Jake Taylor—on the one-year anniversary of her accident. That fall, she excitedly reentered the nursing program at SWOSU.

“Janae has worked extremely hard this year after laying out a year to be able to complete her degree and see her dream to become a nurse be a reality,” said Taylor’s mother, Julie Adams, who now lives in Tahlequah with Janae’s father, Jake.

Jake and Janae will soon be moving to Ft. Worth (TX), where Jake will attend Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Jake is currently associate minister at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Weatherford. Janae will be seeking a job as a nurse.

And, at this year’s SWOSU Commencement, Janae and her family will have big reasons to celebrate as she walks across that stage and receives her diploma.

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