



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on January 21, 2022

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The Goodness of America

Bread Delivery on I-95

Desperate motorists stranded in a 50-mile backup on I-95 between Washington, D.C., and Richmond, Virginia, for more than 20 hours without food and water after a snowstorm brought a foot of snow and icy conditions were treated to much-needed sustenance from a local bakery.

Casey Holihan and her husband, John Noe, a couple traveling to North Carolina, noticed a Schmidt Baking Company truck a few cars ahead of them. After 21 hours of waiting for conditions to improve so the vehicles could begin moving again, they decided to make a “long-shot” call to H&S Bakery, which owns Schmidt Baking Company, and ask if the driver could share some of the truck’s cargo with the trapped drivers.

Within 20 minutes, Chuck Paterakis, the co-owner of H&S Bakery and senior vice president of transportation, called Holihan and asked her to approach the Schmidt truck and bring her phone to the driver, Ron Hill, who, coincidentally, had just been praying about the same idea.

With Paterakis’ blessing, Hill, Holihan, Noe, and a handful of other good Samaritans split up and trekked the icy road to distribute packages of potato rolls and split-top wheat loaves, *Baltimore Magazine* reported.

Holihan recalled, “We were going up to windows holding bread up, and many people were like, ‘How much money do you want for it?’ When we said it was free, some of them were almost moved to tears. They were just so relieved.”

Baltimore Magazine reported this is not the first time H&S has donated bread. The bakery has given nearly three million loaves to organizations throughout the pandemic.

Paterakis’ only regret? “I just wish we could have supplied them some butter or peanut butter, too.”

Holihan and Noe took to Facebook after their 36-hour nightmare on I-95 to thank H&S for their incredible generosity.

“This was one of the kindest moments I have ever witnessed,” Holihan wrote.

WBAL reported Holihan and Noe were traveling to North Carolina to say goodbye to family before Noe is stationed with the U.S. Air Force in Germany.

The Gift of Transportation

A teacher in Anderson County, Kentucky, was so saddened by the story of a Mayfield, Kentucky, tornado survivor that she drove four hours to donate her car.

Rebecca Marsala was one of the survivors trapped inside a candle factory in Mayfield last month when a devastating tornado swept through the city and destroyed the factory. Marsala was trapped in the rubble for five hours. Believing that she would die, Marsala even called her daughter to say goodbye before being rescued.

Marsala spent several days in the hospital recovering from her injuries, the *Epoch Times* reported.

And as if all that was not enough, Marsala lost everything in the tornado.



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Meanwhile, Sharon Sutherland, a teacher from Anderson County, was so overwhelmed by the devastation in Mayfield that she was struck with a compulsion to do something: She decided to donate her own car.

“I can’t explain it, at 3 o’clock in the morning, I wake up and my first thought is, ‘I need to take that car to Mayfield,’” she told WKYT.

And when she learned of Marsala’s story, she knew Marsala was the one to whom she wanted to gift the car.

Sutherland contacted Graves County Sheriff Jon Hayden, who helped arrange a meeting between the two women on December 26.

Sutherland recalls that both women “were trying so hard not to bawl” when they met. Marsala, she said, was both “shocked” and “grateful.”

The Graves County Sheriff’s Office posted the story on its Facebook page.

“Mrs. Sutherland signed over the title and handed the keys to Rebecca. What a blessing,” the sheriff’s office stated. “She also delivered some homemade cookies for our deputies.”

Sutherland told WKYT that she did not want praise for her actions but hoped instead that they would inspire others to help those in need.

“Some of the lessons we do the best in class aren’t the science, or the English, or the math. It’s the life things,” she shared.

Uber Driver Turned Caretaker

In another incredible story from the I-95 nightmare, an Uber driver took very good care of a young passenger in his car, who was understandably anxious during the ordeal.

Davante Williams was driving his passenger from Washington, D.C., to her parents’ home in Williamsburg, Virginia, when they became stranded on I-95.

“My passenger, she was so distraught,” he recalled to News Nation’s Marni Hughes. “Apparently, I picked her up from Union Station, and her train was canceled due to derailment. So she only could call for Uber, and I was her driver.”

CNN reported Williams picked up the passenger at 2:00 a.m., and they were 20 miles into their two-and-a-half-hour journey when they got caught in the backup.

Williams said he shared the crackers and water he had in his car with the teen girl, which helped stave off hunger. He also contacted her parents to assure them that their daughter was safe.

Eventually, Williams was able to follow a work truck and turn around on I-95 to head back to D.C., but he did not want to leave her at Union Station by herself to wait for another train, CNN reported.

“I wind up having to put her in a hotel because she wasn’t old enough to get a room.... So I wanted to make sure she was comfortable. And I didn’t want to leave her stranded,” he explained.

He checked her into the hotel at 8:00 a.m. and offered to take her to her parents in Williamsburg for free when the roads were clear. She ultimately ended up getting a ride from a friend of the family, but the teen and her parents were beyond grateful for all of Williams’ generosity.



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Williams said he has received an outpouring of thanks from both his young passenger and her parents. His story motivated ridesharing company Ride Alto to reach out to Williams and offer him a position as lead driver, which will allow him to work mostly in an office in a supervisory role, Williams said.



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