

Healers 2026 Hunter Alexander

Audio	Video
[Dramatic Music]	Purple graphic over white Text: Celebrating Healers for fifteen years in a circle around a graphic 15 Dissolves to pink & purple background with white text An Evening for Healers Celebrating Heroes, Healing, and Hope
[Hunter] I was born in Minden, Louisiana. Raised my whole life in Quitman.	Family sitting around in the living room
Somewhat of a big family. You know, compared to other people, I guess.	Young man with short dark hair and close cropped mustache and goatee, wearing a dark t-shirt as he sits in front of a bookcase in his home. Text: Hunter Alexander Patient
[Katie] I was a junior, and he was a sophomore when we started dating. But we have been friends for years before that.	A photo of a teenaged Hunter and Katie posing for prom pictures followed by a photo of them posing for wedding pictures
Hunter's a people person. I've always thought he could be a little politician, probably.	Hunter talking to family as Katie looks up at him from the seat beside him
He, never meets a stranger. And he could talk to that lamp over there. And a goofball. Hard to deal with. (giggles)	Young woman with long, straight blonde hair pulled over her shoulder and reaching almost to her waist. She is wearing an orange sweater and seated in front of a bookcase in a home Text: Katie Alexander Hunter's wife
[Daren] They've been together for a long time.	Older man with shaved head wearing a navy polo shirt, sitting in front of the same bookcase Text: Daren Alexander Hunter's Father
She keeps him in check. [Susan] To say that this young couple has been through a lot. My husband and I	Hunter and Katie seated on couch as Hunter talks and Katie looks on and rolls her eyes in laughter.

Audio	Video
have been married 27 years, and there is a lot that my husband and I haven't faced that these two already have within one year of marriage.	Older woman with long wavy hair pulled over her shoulders. She is wearing a black scoop neck blouse and is seated in front of the same bookcase as everyone else. Text: Susan Williams Hunter's Mother In Law
[Newscaster] The amount of human suffering that a lot of folks are about to endure over the next couple of days is going to be stressful.	Weather report from Sunday, January 25. The radar is covered in pink for icy conditions cuts to fallen trees in an icy yard and trees and branches falling over roadways
[Music]	Purple and pink background Text: Hunter worked as a lineman for an electric utility company. While working to restore power after the ice storm, he was electrocuted.
Hunter I really don't even remember. Everything from about that point, is just gone.	Trucks and crews out in the weather working to repair powerlines.
[Susan] My phone rang about 5:00. It was my husband and he said Hunter's boss has tried to call Katie. He can't get her. Hunter's been hurt.	Scenes from the ice storm of trees down and powerline sparking
And as I opened the door, the first thing she said was, what's wrong? And I told her, get dressed. It's Hunter.	Susan on camera
[Katie] I think I was hollering. I was mad. Like, my my reaction to it was rage. So we got in the car and we went after him.	Katie on camera
[Susan] We made it to the hospital, and that's when we found out that they were taking him on straight to Shreveport. But we got word that they were going to have to stop in Ruston. And at this point, we still really had no information on Hunter's condition.	Icy conditions on major roads, traffic backed up and stopped as tractors work to clear the roads
[Music]	Purple and pink background Text: Susan called Daren while he was at work to tell him about Hunter's accident, and that he would be transferred to Ochsner L S U Health Shreveport.
[Daren] M C H. I'm an R.N. I work at the Methodist Children's home here in Ruston.	Cell phone video of Daren outside in the ice and snow

Audio	Video
The hospital is right straight across the street from where I work. They just got Hunter there when I got there.	Emergency entrance of hospital
Well, I didn't know details, I mean at that point, I didn't need to know details. You know, I knew he was alive.	Daren on camera
[Susan] When we got to Ruston. And they told us that he was on the ventilator.	Cell phone photo of Hunter on gurney, intubated
[Katie] At that point, he's knocked out with tubes all down his throat. That whole entire night, we just sat by his bed watching him. [Daren] I knew that, he needed a fasciotomy just in a short amount of time.	Cell phone photo of Hunter wrapped in blankets laying on a gurney in the E R then shot of Katie sleeping on gurney next to Hunter's
Especially his left arm was just as hard as a rock. I was worried about compartment syndrome. We got to get him over there.	Daren on camera
We were just waiting for daylight because the word was, you know, that the cloud cover you can't fly. Then it was the parking lot. They got to have a place to land. It was ice, you know, four inches deep in the parking lot. When it got daylight, we went outside and it was clear, like, hey, let's get these guys on the phone. The administrator had reached out some local people that came with tractors, and we had picks and shovels and were out there clearing the area in the parking lot for helicopter.	Cell phone video of a helicopter landing on an icy parking lot, crew loading Hunter into a flight bag and pushing the gurney across the ice toward the helicopter, loading him into the helicopter and it taking off
Normally we don't fly. They don't let passengers fly. As a nurse, I understood that. But the flight nurse came to me and she said, look, considering the circumstances of the road conditions, we're going to let one person go so he will have family with him. I flew with them. They let me fly, which I was grateful.	Helicopter in flight as crew and Daren watch over Hunter
[Dr. Nammour] A level one trauma center is the highest acuity of care. What that means is	Inside the helicopter as it approaches the landing pad at L S U Health Shreveport

Audio	Video
we can take care of the worst thing that could possibly happen to a human.	Doctor with flowing dark hair, wearing a black t-shirt and shiny blue suit jacket sitting in a room with wooden slats behind him Text: Michael Nammour, M D Orthopaedic Surgeon Clinical Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
Seth Life in the level one trauma ICU, it's action packed. But, you know, I look at it like every patient's worst day of their life. And, hopefully I can do something to help it out.	Man with high hairline and dark spikey hair wearing a light colored button up shirt seated in the same room as doctor Text: Seth Robinson, R N Surgical I C U
Usually when they fly in, we get a little word if they think they're going to be serious. We did hear, a lineman was coming in with electrical shock, and then they rolled in like any other patient. He was a little down, and and out, he was hurting.	Nurses work to setup monitoring and IVs on Hunter
He was scared. Didn't know exactly how serious it was, but he was awake.	Set on camera
[Dr. Nammour] He was intubated at the time. He had severe electrical burns to his bilateral or both of his extremities, and they were quite severe.	Cell phone photo of Hunter intubated laying on a gurney in the E R
He had severe swelling to both his hands and forearms. And we worried about something called compartment syndrome.	Photos of Hunter's swollen hands
[Dr. Nammour] Compartment syndrome is basically where you get so much swelling in the compartment that the muscle doesn't have any more room to go, and basically the blood supply to the muscles get cut off. If that happens and muscle starts dying, your nerves start dying, start losing blood flow. And essentially there's a high risk of amputation. We consider that a surgical emergency.	Doctor Nammour on camera
[Susan] We got word pretty quick that they were going to take him into surgery. LSU had been in contact with Katie that they would be calling her with updates.	Susan and Katie seated at a kitchen table talking as they wait for news
Katie was laying in the bed and she called me and she said, would you just lay with me? And so we laid there and we prayed and we waited.	Susan on camera

Audio	Video
[Dr. Nammour] Because he was unable to participate in an exam in a meaningful way, we did something where we measured the pressures in his compartments, which were very, very high, well above what we would expect. We made the decision to take him emergently to the operating room for what we call fasciotomies, which is essentially where we open up, in this case, the hand and the forearm, and relieve the pressure that's in the compartments. The muscle is covered with something called fascia, which is a very, very tight, constrictive band. And you open those bands of tissue and let the muscle kind of breathe so that blood flow can be restored. At the end of that surgery, our team talked with Hunter's father and explained to him the severity of the situation. We explained to him that these	Team in operating room sets up lights and instruments. Nurse hands doctors instruments as he begins surgery
can be catastrophic injuries, meaning like there is a high risk of amputation, there's a high risk of infection, and there's a high risk of complete loss of limb. But that we got to Hunter and, in a timely fashion, which I think	Doctor Nammour on camera
ultimately saved his arms. I did tell Hunter's father at the time that these are very serious and that they typically need multiple surgeries, that not everything's done at once. It needs multiple times	Surgical team on operating room cleaning out wounds
for clean outs and then skin grafting and different, different types of procedures to ultimately be done with it.	Doctor Nammour on camera
[Dr. Purcell] Generally, when, patients come in with injuries about the hand and forearm, even though it may necessarily be a burn, it is a complex wound, generally orthopedics, we generally take care of that.	Exterior of Ochsner L S U Health Shreveport campus, emergency entrance sign followed by Ochsner L S U H S logos on building
Doctor Nammour, he knows that I have a lot of experience managing these complex wounds. He asked me to, if we could transition care, and I accepted the care. When I first saw his wounds, both the right hand and the left forearm and left hand, I knew that, this is not going to be a one time surgery, and this is going to be multiple surgeries.	Medium complected man with tightly shaved head and dark beard and mustache, wearing a white shirt with a red coat with wide spaced thin blue lines. He is sitting in the room with the wooden slats Text: Kevin Purcell, M D, M P H, M S Orthopaedic Surgeon Clinical Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Audio	Video
[Dramatic music]	Purple and pink background Text: Because of icy road conditions, Katie and Susan were unable to make it to Shreveport. A few days after Hunter arrived, deputies across different parishes in North Louisiana drove them to Ochsner L S U Health Shreveport.
[Katie] It was just relief to get there, get my eyes on him. He was still Hunter.	Photo of Hunter sitting up in hospital bed with both hands and arms bandaged
I knew immediately that he was still Hunter.	Katie on camera
[Daren] After the initial - Okay. You survived being electrocuted. Now you know the complications. You know the muscle damage. How much limb damage? You know, you going to lose his hand.	Daren on camera
And, you know, I knew his left arm was worse. I was comforted in the fact that he was there with a team, that this is what they do.	Photo of Katie sitting beside Hunter's hospital bed. Hunter's arms and hands are heavily wrapped
Dr. Purcell You know, I've had a lot of success using Restrata. That's electro spun fiber matrix that kind of helps form granulation tissue and helps with wound healing. The first thing that I addressed was just looking to see how viable the muscle tissue was. And you do what's called a debridement. It's removing non-viable aka dead tissue. And that's all I was doing. The first surgery is like, what's alive here? What's not alive, what can we save and what needs to go?	Various shots from the operating room nurses trade out instruments and Doctor Purcell performs surgery
Most of those surgeries were just vac changes. What I did for the third and fourth is when I applied the Restrata, which is the electro spun fiber matrix.	Doctor Purcell on camera
It actually did a really good job kind of helping heal, but part of using that is we use what's called a wound vac, it's called negative pressure wound therapy.	Doctor Purcell placing material in the operating room
And you kind of keep this continuous suction on and it kind of helps the wound kind of heal. It can be painful to do those vac changes.	Doctor Purcell on camera
So every week I brought them back to the operating room. And we just did a vac change there in the hospital.	Various shots from the operating room

Audio	Video
Seth You're not in the ICU if it's not life or death. In my unit, every single patient, they must think they have a chance to die. So he was in the ICU for at least a week. He got to go to the floor because he was pretty active and doing well.	Nurse at the bedside listening to the patient's heart and checking the dressing
[Sandy] Initially when I saw Hunter, of course, he had the bulky dressings on his hands. You couldn't hardly see his fingertips. One hand was burnt worse than the other,	Woman with shoulder length blonde hair wearing black scrubs, seated in the same room as the other doctors and nurses Text: Sandy Davis, L O T R Occupational Therapist Supervisor of Rehab Services
so we started off with the hand splints. From there, I would take the hand splints off and we would	Photo of Hunter laid up in the hospital bed with his arms resting on pillows
do our range of motion exercises. Eventually he got pretty good function in his hand for	Photo of Hunter in hospital room with Katie sitting at the foot of the bed
small things he could do. The other hand was a little bit slower. It had more surgeries to come,	Hunter seated in a recliner with his bandaged hands on a pillow
so we went from doing nothing to being able to pick up and do a few little things with the better hand.	Hunter smiling as he stands holding an IV pole with Katie by his side
So that was a huge process while he was in the hospital. Of course, I know he still had a long road ahead, but he was willing to fight the fight.	Sandy on camera
[Dramatic Music]	Purple and pink background Text: After a few weeks, Hunter was discharged from the hospital and returned home. He had a setback a few days later after he returned home.
[Hunter] I was home for two days.	Hunter on camera
[Katie] Everything had been going good. His spirits were up, my spirits were up.	Katie on camera
[Hunter] I started bleeding out in my backyard.	Hunter on camera
[Katie] He, like, holds his hand over and I just see blood, and I'm like, oh, that's a lot of that's a lot of blood coming out.	Katie on camera

Audio	Video
[Hunter] They got towel and stuff wrapped around my arm. But because of all the rap and everything, you know, they couldn't they'd we didn't know where it was coming from or where to put pressure to stop it or anything. And I just remember, you know, the towels just filling up the blood. And I was like, I'm fixing to die right here, like, after all this, and I'm fixing to die right here in my back, on my back doorstep.	Hunter on camera
[Katie] I called Doctor Purcell on Hunter's phone and was like, he's bleeding.	Katie on camera
[Dr. Purcell] And at that point I told him, go put a belt around his arm to act as somewhat of a pseudo tourniquet and then transport him to the closest E.R.	Doctor Purcell on camera
[Katie] He was white as a sheet, completely limp. Eyes just rolling around in his head. I thought he was dead out there.	Katie on camera
[Daren] We're driving. He's sort of in and out of consciousness. And I'm talking to him. I'm trying to drive. That event was more traumatic for me because I'm experiencing it.	Daren driving the car with Hunter in the back seat unconscious. An unknown man holds the belt tourniquet tight
He's thinking he's going to die in his backyard. I'm thinking he's going to die in the back seat of my car.	Daren on camera
We got him there and they gave him, you know, three units of blood and	Cell phone photo of Hunter on a gurney with blood on his shirt and a torniquet on his upper arm. A doctor inspects his bloody arm
forced some fluids and got his blood pressure sort of up and then headed back to Ochsner.	Photo of Hunter on a gurney with both arms lifted over his head. There is blood on his hands and shirt.
Dr. Purcell When he came to us, we didn't see any active bleeding or anything at that point, which is kind of weird.	Photo of an exhausted Hunter with both arms bandaged, still on the gurney
We searched and we searched, but we didn't see anything. I remember after the surgery it was pretty discomfoting to his wife and to his father, and they didn't want to go home, because they, I mean, as you can imagine it's pretty traumatic to see someone bleeding. So at that point,	Doctor Purcell on camera

Audio	Video
we decided to keep him in the hospital for a week. And then we brought him up to the 10th floor at Oschner LSU to just stay there	Hunter laid back on a gurney smiling as his bandaged arm rests on a pillow
to do the weekly wound vac changes in case anything happened. So one of us were close by where it wouldn't be a need for a transfer.	Photos of a smiling Katie sitting next to Hunter who is on a rolling recliner in the doorway of his room and of Daren holding a framed picture next to Hunter who is smiling from bed
[Hunter] My skin graft surgery. I mean, that was a big one because that's what we had been hoping for that.	Darkened Operating room with surgical lights pointed at an arm being wrapped
[Dr. Purcell] With the graft, you have what's called a derma tone. You take it and you run it somewhere on the skin, whether it be the legs, the back,	Doctor Purcell on camera
you put it in a mesher to kind of get it expandable. I just applied it to his right shoulder, his left forearm, and I put a little bit on his thumb.	Material being run through a mesher, arm being wrapped in gauze
He still has a way to go. He has to get a surgery to kind of reconstruct those collateral ligaments about his left thumb,	Picture of a smiling Hunter in a hospital bed with his hand bandaged
but as from what he gave us to now he's at a good spot.	Photo of Hunter in a car with his right hand free and his left hand in a small brace
This is somebody who could have potentially lost both hands. I think, with the, you know, aggressive physical therapy and occupational therapy, I see him getting better and better.	Doctor Purcell on camera
[Seth] Our tight family in the ICU meshed well with his tight family. Between the two of us,	Photo of Hunter in a robe standing in a hospital corridor smiling with Seth and other members of his nursing team
he had the care he needed. And, he had the right attitude. And that's why he is where he is now.	Seth on camera
[Daren] If he wasn't my son, if he was just a patient, I would be proud. So, you know, for him to be my son...	Daren on camera
[Music] [Susan] One day when they have a child, Hunter will have those hands	Daren and Hunter outside enjoying the weather. Hunter and Katie sitting on a couch talking
to hold that child. So how do I say thank you for that?	Susan on camera

Audio	Video
[Katie] Thank you. And (giggles) thank you for dealing with him. Because he's he's a goofball and he's hard headed and talked their ears off when they let him.	Katie on camera
This 100% changed the way I look at life. Made me realize, you know what's important.	Hunter's extended family sitting around the living room listening as Hunter talks
He could have been gone.	Katie on camera
[Hunter] Thank them for everything. Thanks for sitting and listening to me talk when they might not have actually wanted to. Being my friend, whether they wanted to or not. You know, just helping me make the best of the situation. And all the doctors and nurses and everybody for helping me get to where I am now. Yeah. Good people.	Hunter on camera
[Music]	Pink & purple background with white text An Evening for Healers Celebrating Heroes, Healing, and Hope