

Press Release
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Green Springs, Ohio

MIRACLES DO HAPPEN!



Randy Snook, 47, of Sycamore, Ohio came to St. Francis Health Care Centre in Green Springs after suffering a brain stem stroke. He had spent two days in Wyandot Memorial Hospital in Upper Sandusky and one week at The Ohio State University Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. While he was in Columbus, Snook underwent a CT scan and an MRI, and it was there that he was diagnosed with a brain stem stroke.

Randy had had both sides of his family at St. Francis in the past and he said, “I knew it was a very good place for physical therapy. I had a great aunt recover from a train wreck and she walked out of here.”

When Snook arrived at St. Francis in April of 2007 he was unable to walk, talk, or swallow. He had two goals, one was to be able to do all of the above and the most important was to walk his daughter, Chanelle down the aisle on her wedding day. “I just wanted to be able to walk her down the aisle, I knew I had to get up and walk and if nothing else I wanted her to hold on to me and walk me.”

While at St. Francis he went through speech therapy that included electrical stimulation (Vitalstim) therapy. Snook said his days were packed full of therapy beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m. He credits Heather Hughes, a speech language pathologist for helping him reach his goal. She did Vitalstim treatments on his neck to help him swallow again. St. Francis is very fortunate to have three speech therapists at the facility. Snook also did occupational and physical therapy during his stay. Snook said he did most of his rehabilitation by using the parallel bars to help him walk. "I felt secure between them," he said.

"Every day it was, 'We need to do this,' or 'We need to do that,'" Snook said, crediting the staff for encouraging him and pushing him towards his goal. "The encouragement was unbelievable," said Snook.

With this encouragement Randy was released from St. Francis Health Care Centre and was able to walk, talk, and swallow. On June 30, 2007 Randy Snook fulfilled his final dream; he walked his daughter down the aisle. A miraculous accomplishment in such a short period of time.