

## **Patient Testimonial: Steve Mount Reflects on His Health Journey Nearly a Year Later**

Nearly a year after his life-changing experience, Steve Mount has returned to reflect on his journey at Mason District Hospital (MDH). What began as a routine visit to the ER quickly escalated into a medical crisis, but Steve's gratitude for the team at MDH is evident as he shares his story.

"I can't say enough about the team at MDH," Steve says, speaking with deep gratitude. "Everyone at the hospital, from the moment I walked in, made sure I got the best care possible, and I'm forever thankful for that."

Steve's journey started with what seemed like a minor health issue—a stubborn abscess that wouldn't heal. After a procedure, he developed a secondary infection that spread rapidly. "The infection spread throughout my body," Steve explains. "It got into my bloodstream, and I started to feel worse and worse. It was only a few days after the procedure that things took a dangerous turn."

On the fourth morning after his surgery, Steve woke up unable to move and was very weak. "I couldn't get out of bed, and I knew something was terribly wrong," he recalls. His wife, Glenna, rushed him to the Emergency Department at Mason District Hospital, where Dr. Quinones was quick to identify the problem. "Dr. Quinones knew exactly what it was," Steve says. "He ordered blood work and a CT scan right away, and that's when the whole process started moving fast."

Steve was transferred to a larger hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery. “The hospital had my CT scans and blood work ready when I arrived, which allowed them to act immediately,” he explains. “The surgeon later told my wife that if it weren’t for MDH’s quick diagnosis and having all the tests ready, they wouldn’t have been able to act so fast. That could’ve cost me my life.”

After spending two weeks at the larger hospital and undergoing multiple surgeries, Steve returned to MDH for recovery. “The commute to the larger hospital was over 50 miles, and Glenna was making that drive every day,” Steve explains. “When we learned about the Swing Bed Program, it was a game-changer. It meant Glenna didn’t have to travel so far and could be close to me while I continued healing.”

Glenna was reassured by the support she received from Dr. Brown, MDH Hospitalist, and the Care Coordinators. “Dr. Brown and his team were amazing,” she says. “They took care of everything, and I didn’t have to worry about a thing. By the time I got to the hospital, everything was set up for Steve’s admission. They made it all so easy.”

Steve would spend the next six weeks in the Med/Surg unit as part of Mason District Hospital’s Swing Bed Program, receiving IV infusions.

Reflecting on his time in the Swing Bed Program, Steve is quick to praise the level of care he received. “Everyone at MDH treated me like I was family,” he says. “The nursing staff was incredible—they

checked on me regularly, always with a smile, communicated between shift changes, and made sure I had everything I needed. That personal touch meant so much.”

One particular nurse, Zoe, stood out in Steve’s memory. “Zoe had such an energetic and compassionate demeanor,” he says. “She was always so upbeat, and you could tell she genuinely cared. I really appreciated that. The entire team was great.”

For Steve, the Swing Bed Program was more than just a place to rest—it was a space for him to regain his strength. “I’m a very independent person,” he says, “and I’m used to being outdoors, walking around. When I first arrived, I was so weak I could barely take a shower. But through the Swing Bed Program, I started getting stronger every day.”

Nearly a year later, Steve is grateful for how far he’s come. “I would definitely recommend the Swing Bed Program to anyone in a similar situation,” he says. “The care I received here at MDH was top-notch, and I’ll always be grateful to this hospital.” Dr. Quinones, who initially diagnosed Steve’s condition, remains one of the key figures in his recovery. “Dr. Quinones saved my life,” Steve says with conviction. “Without him, I don’t know where I’d be right now.”

When asked what he would say to others who might not be familiar with the Swing Bed Program, Steve doesn’t hesitate. “I would tell them to give it a try. The staff here really takes care of you, and it made all the difference in my recovery.”

For Glenna, MDH’s care was a relief during a difficult time. “I feel so fortunate that we have such a wonderful hospital close to home. MDH made everything so much easier for us, and I knew Steve was in good hands the entire time. The care and support we received here were beyond what we could have expected.”

Reflecting on his experience, Steve is thankful for the compassionate care he received. “I’m grateful to have MDH in our community. It’s a great hospital, and I’ll always be thankful for the care I received.” He’s living proof that the combination of quick action, compassionate care, and a personal touch can truly make a difference in a patient’s recovery. Steve’s journey, which required skilled care, IV infusion, and ongoing medical support, exemplifies the kinds of patients who benefit from the Swing Bed Program at MDH—those in need of extra time to heal before returning home.

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### **About the Swing Bed Program at Mason District Hospital**

The Swing Bed program at Mason District Hospital provides skilled care for patients who need extra time to heal after an inpatient hospitalization. It allows patients to transition from acute to skilled care, either from the hospital or a tertiary care center, with the goal of helping them regain independence or return home with support from community resources like home health care.

Services offered include daily nursing care, physical, occupational, or speech therapy, wound care, IV infusions, pain management, palliative care, and more, all tailored to the individual’s needs.

Patients must have a minimum of three nights in an inpatient stay and require additional skilled nursing care to qualify. The care team is customized based on the patient's needs and may include physicians, nurses, therapists, dietitians, social services, and more.

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### **Have Questions?**

If you need transitional care after a hospital stay, our Case Management Team is here to help. They can answer your questions and assist with Swing Bed referrals.

 Please contact us at **(309) 543-8594**

 Referring facilities may securely fax referrals to **(309) 543-8494**