

Sago Mine Survivor Leaves Hospital

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Associated Press



MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Sago Mine survivor Randal McCloy Jr. was released from a hospital Thursday and offered *gratitude* for the support he has received since he was trapped almost three months ago. "I'd just like to thank everybody for their thoughts and prayers," McCloy said during a brief appearance at a morning news conference, "I believe that's it." McCloy then left the room with his wife, Anna." However, there are 12 families who are in our thoughts and prayers today and every day. The families of Randy's co-workers and friends are celebrating with us today just as we continue to mourn with them.

McCloy is considered a medical miracle because he survived after being exposed to carbon monoxide for more than 41 hours. In recognition of that, Gov. Joe Manchin announced that the rural road where the McCloy's live will now be named "Miracle Road."

After the blast, which the mine's owner says was caused by a lightning strike, some people speculated McCloy survived because he was deeper in the mine, farther from the bad air. He said he was not. Nor does he believe a crushed lung limited the carbon monoxide he inhaled. If he had been in pain, he figures, he would have inhaled even more. What McCloy does know is that he is strong and healthy now because of 24-hour support from his wife and brother-in-law Rick McGee, who have barely left his side for three months.

McCloy's memories of the 41 hours underground are "not much really," just *fragmented* images he'd rather forget. When he thinks of his fallen friends, he pictures them elsewhere. Doctors say McCloy was perhaps minutes from death when he was pulled from the coal mine Jan. 4 with kidney, lung, liver and heart damage. He was in a coma for weeks, suffering from severe brain injuries.

McCloy is about 5-foot-10 and thin, down from a normal 160 pounds to just 135. His throat still bears a deep purple mark from a long-since removed feeding tube, but his voice is clear and soft. When he gets home, he will continue to use weights to help speed up his therapy. He also will return to HealthSouth three days a week, four hours a day, for a few more months.

"It's a delicate situation and it should be handled delicately. It's not something you definitely want to dive right in," he said. "I am going to choose to be careful about what I say and how I word things for the families' sake. I just feel I should show them great respect."

1. What percent of a week did McCloy spend being exposed to carbon monoxide?
2. What were the probability and odds of miners who did **NOT** survive?
3. What injuries did Randal endure because of the mining accident?
4. What is the percent of change in McCloy's body weight?
5. Given the results in question four, assuming you suffered a similar percentage of weight loss, what would your new body weight become? Explain .
6. How many inches, cm, and mm is Randal less than six feet tall?
7. In paragraph(s) form, summarize the passage printed above.
8. What is your opinion towards the level of compassion Americans should hold towards employees who elect to work in hazardous conditions?
9. In the passage above, in paragraph form, explain at least seven ways using the "**Reading Across The Curriculum**" poster simplifies understanding of the material. Be specific.
10. In paragraph form, list at least five ways using guidelines from the "**Writing Guidelines**" will make you a stronger and more convincing writer; specifically, on The Daughtry Times.
11. Using contextual clues only, explain the meaning of the italicized words: *gratitude* and *fragmented*.
12. In paragraph form, explain five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.