

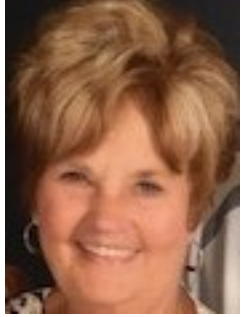


# CRAWFORD COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

## GOSLAR CREDITS CCMH STAFF WITH LIFE-SAVING TREATMENT

"I had been having a lot of problems. I had taken a fall and Dr. Ingram wanted me to get an MRI. I'd had two (MRIs) before so it didn't bother me at all."

It was in this fashion that LouAnna Goslar begins her story of life-saving treatment at Crawford County Memorial Hospital.



LouAnna and her husband, Ronnie, live in Ute, Iowa. She was outside with her dog in May 2018, when the dog pulled LouAnna off a bench and she fell, face first, to the ground. Her resulting injuries caused lightheadedness and dizziness. After an appointment with her family physician, Dr. John Ingram at CCMH, he ordered an MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) for diagnostic purposes. To determine if there were any brain injuries related to the fall, Dr. Ingram also ordered dye to be inserted during the last 5 minutes of the MRI. The dye allows for better resolution in the MRI images and helps to detect any blood clots or other injuries.

What happened next was totally unexpected.

"The nurse told me it would be the last 5 minutes they would put the dye in. I went in and the first 20 minutes went fine but as soon as she put the dye in, it was the worst pain I'd ever felt in my life. I think I would have 10 kids again before I would go through that. It was horrible pain."

What LouAnna was experiencing was anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is caused by an overreaction of your immune system and can result in anaphylactic shock. Anaphylactic shock occurs when a patient has an allergic reaction to an antigen. In LouAnna's case, the introduction of the dye was the antigen that triggered her reaction. When the body goes into anaphylactic shock, blood pressure suddenly drops and airways narrow, possibly blocking normal breathing. While anaphylactic shock is an extremely rare event, it can often be life-threatening.

"I don't remember a whole lot after that but they shut the machine off right away, of course. When the machine did stop, the pain went away immediately. I just got out (of the MRI) and I remember I could not breathe. I just couldn't get any breath. I felt like I was dying."

"I remember hearing the lady in Radiology say she needed help. And I remember hearing a lot of rustling going on, a lot of footsteps and that, but most everything after that is really kind of a blur."

What LouAnna doesn't remember was a team of emergency room technicians from CCMH administering epinephrine, a drug that counteracts the symptoms of anaphylactic shock. One of the complications from experiencing anaphylactic shock can be a heart attack. As LouAnna was recovering from anaphylactic shock, a heart attack occurred. For several hours, the emergency room technicians administered care to stabilize LouAnna's condition until she could be seen by the cardiologist.

"I remember coming to. I was in a regular hospital room and I had a gown on. I remember looking and seeing Ronnie, my husband, and Chad, my son, and Marcy, my daughter, sitting there and they were all looking at me so funny and I thought, "What are you looking at me like that for?"

"Then I realized, 'Oh, okay'. I realized where I was at then and it started coming back to me. I thought, 'Well, I can breathe.' I remember Dr. (W. Paul) Biddle (the cardiologist) coming in and asking me what it was like. He said the doctors need to know what the pain is like. And I told him, and that's when he told me I had had a heart attack during the MRI, which really surprised me."

"Then they came and told me they were going to take me in the ambulance down to Omaha."

LouAnna spent three days in the hospital in Omaha before coming home to complete her recovery. LouAnna says it took almost two months for her to regain her strength and mobility but now she feels as good as ever. She is extremely thankful for the quick reaction of the Radiology and Emergency department staff in recognizing her condition and providing the life-saving care she needed.

"Amazing. Amazing. I mean they were just right on the ball, clear down to those ladies in Radiology. I can remember that voice calling for help. They definitely saved my life. No doubt about it."

LouAnna would recommend Crawford County Memorial Hospital to anyone who asks.

"Go to the Denison hospital. Dr. Biddle actually even said that to me when he was up there. He said, 'You were lucky you were in this hospital and they knew what to do for you. Because, he said, this doesn't happen very often. This is pretty uncommon.'"

"And I said, 'I thought I was dying.' And he said, 'You were dying. You were about two minutes from dying.' It was a really scary experience."