

Mayo Clinic News Network

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Wedding Surprise

Intro: There are some things in life for which a parent will do anything not to miss: a baby's first steps, prom night and a child's wedding. The man you're about to meet was too sick to walk his daughter down the aisle. His heart was failing. But a team at Mayo Clinic made an impossible wedding surprise happen.

Video	Audio
Voice of Vivien Williams VO: Andre in hospital	For months Andre Pearson has lived in a Mayo Clinic hospital with a failing heart.
Andre Pearson (8:11 – clip 7505) Has heart failure	“The main goal is to get home and get well.”
Voice of Vivien Williams VO: Andre I hospital	And in a sense ... his heart was also ‘breaking’, as a father, because he was too sick to walk his daughter down the aisle at her wedding.
<input type="checkbox"/> David Joyce, M.D. (00:24 – clip 7513) Mayo Clinic surgeon	“If you would just look at everything on paper, you would say there is really nothing we can offer but then when you meet Mr. Pearson, you realize what he's got, what he's capable of, then you start to think outside the box a little bit.”
Voice of Vivien Williams VO: Andre and Dr. Joyce in hospital	Mayo Clinic surgeon Dr. David Joyce says Andre was too sick for a heart transplant, but because of his incredible determination, the surgical team decided to try something different. Dr. Joyce teamed up with his own father, surgeon Dr. Lyle Joyce, to repair a heart valve and then implant not one but two ventricular assist devices, or VADs... one on the left and one on the right side of Andre's heart, a first at Mayo.
Andre Pearson (2:41)	“When I met these people it was a blessing come true.”

<p>Voice of Vivien Williams VO: Andre in hospital with staff</p> <p>Including Angie Luckhardt</p>	<p>Andre was tethered to a machine but continued to improve after surgery. Then Angie Luckhardt, a member of his health care team, came up with another out-of-the-box idea.</p>
<p>Angie Luckhardt, RN, CNS (00:25 Clip 7529) Mayo Clinic</p>	<p>"I said you know I'd love to just kidnap him and take him off to the wedding so he can see his daughter get married Because every dad should walk his daughter down the aisle."</p>
<p>Andre Pearson (9:48/1:50 Clip 7505)</p>	<p>"Then she came around the corner and says she has some good news, and I'm like what are you talking about and she says we got a plan for you to go to your daughters wedding... We both just started crying."</p>
<p>Voice of Vivien Williams Team on phone, tux fitting to aerals of wedding scene</p>	<p>The team set up a haircut, fitted him for a tux and a surprise trip was booked. Physician's assistant Sarah Schettle traveled with him.</p>
<p>Andre Pearson (10:47 Clip 75-05)</p>	<p>"We're going to make it a surprise for my daughter that's getting married her name is Alexandra."</p>
<p>Voice of Vivien Williams VO: Sarah Schettle with Andre</p>	
<p>Andre Pearson (11:01/11:42 – Clip 7505) Go to video of Andre in wheel chair entering daughters house</p>	<p>"The good thing about it is I'll be able to go down the aisle with her. I cry, but they're tears of joy. To be there by my daughter, my wife and my other children to be together at one time."</p>
<p>VO: b-roll and nats of Andre and</p>	<p>"It's dad...It's OK daddy's here."</p>
<p>Andre Pearson (continue video) (00:25 clip 7506)</p>	<p>"First and foremost I give god all the glory for all the things he has done for me."</p>
<p>Man's voice</p>	<p>"You didn't lose another daughter you got another son."</p>
<p>(in same clip as above)</p>	<p>Praise the lord, god is good"</p>
<p>VO: wedding shots 0 flower girls, people etc.</p>	<p>Music...</p>

VO: waiting to walk down aisle	“Look alright?”
Pastor (56:59)	“With this ring, I thee wed.”
Couple kissing (23:01:57)	“I love you. I love you too.”
Voice of Vivien Williams VO: Wedding scened	(Music continues) As Andre basks in the joy of his daughter’s wedding, he wants to take time to pay it back.
Andre Pearson (0:33 – Clip 7520)	“I can give encouragement to someone else. I think that’s what it’s all about.”
VO: wedding shots	Music
Vivien Williams	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Vivien Williams□

Tag: Andre is now back at Mayo Clinic and focused on getting better. His condition continues to improve and is hopeful he’ll be well enough to receive a heart transplant one day.