

Mayo Clinic News Network

Title: Bob & Ruth’s Stroke Survival Story / Date: October 2015

Intro: Strokes take the lives of more than six million people around the globe each year. But, quick action can make all the difference, often sparing victims from death or a lifetime of impairment. Dennis Doua, with the Mayo Clinic News Network, has a perfect example.

Video

Audio

Estimated running time [2:00]	/// Video
Ruth Harris speaking	“When that happened he could not move that arm at all, that arm or leg.”
Bob Harris speaking	“They call me lucky.”
Dennis Doua speaking	Lucky, it’s a new nickname that just might stick for stroke survivor Bob Harris. “His hero,” is what he’s calling Ruth, his wife of 43 years.
Ruth Harris speaking	“We could have lost him. It was pretty close.”
TITLE: Bob Harris / Stroke Survivor	“Well, she knew I wasn’t breathing right and she kept trying to wake me up.”
TITLE: Ruth Harris / Bob’s Wife	“Just as kind of a test I asked him if he could get out his hanky and wipe his chin and he couldn’t even really move. So, I knew I had to get help immediately.”
Dr. Giuseppe Lanzino speaking	“So you can see here as we inject the dye, the dye flows through the carotid artery and, as there is a blockage, it just stops right there at the base of the skull.”
Dennis Doua speaking GRAPHICS <u>Stroke Symptoms</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slurred speech • Confusion • Numbness/Tingling • Weakness in arm/leg 	Mayo Clinic neurosurgeon Giuseppe Lanzino specializes in stroke treatment and prevention. Dr. Lanzino says Bob had all the classic symptoms; slurred speech, confusion, numbness or tingling and weakness in an arm or leg.
TITLE: Dr. Giuseppe Lanzino / Mayo Clinic Neurosurgeon	“Often there is a tendency to wait to see if the symptoms subside.”
Dennis Doua speaking	Driving at the time of Bob’s stroke, Ruth pulled over and called an ambulance. By the time she arrived at the hospital in her own car, Bob had already been wheeled in for treatment.
Bob Harris speaking	“But, they scanned me right away and found that clot.”

Dennis Douda speaking	Minutes later, you can see the dramatic difference. With the blockage removed, blood was again flowing freely throughout his brain.
Dr. Giuseppe Lanzino speaking	“The CT Scan showed that the stroke was at the very beginning, so there was no permanent damage.”
Ruth Harris speaking	“Just don’t be afraid and take the chance and call for help, because I’m sure glad I did. I’m glad I did not wait.”
Dr. Giuseppe Lanzino speaking	“The best treatment really is prevention.”
Dennis Douda speaking GRAPHICS: <u>Lower Your Stroke Risk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control – diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol • Don’t smoke • Eat healthy • Exercise 	Dr. Lanzino says that means controlling diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Don’t smoke, eat healthy and exercise. And if stroke does strike, follow Bob and Ruth’s example.
Ruth Harris speaking	“Even the doctors are calling it a miracle. So, it’s really hard to believe, but we are so grateful.”
Dennis Douda speaking	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Dennis Douda.

Anchor tag: 800,000 Americans suffer strokes every year. By the way, one more advantage of calling an ambulance instead of driving the patient to the Emergency Room yourself? Paramedics will alert the hospital, so that their medical team can be ready as soon as the patient arrives, just as they were for Bob.

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