

Trust

by Nancy Mann

An elderly farmer was brought to University Hospital a few years ago and admitted for treatment of a serious heart condition. He was so weak and in such bad shape, that the cardiologist ordered palliative care only-telling the nurse to make him comfortable and wait for the end. The farmer's heart was in Stage IV of a disease, almost in fibrillation, where the heart can't beat, but just quiver like so much jello, which is a death-knell.

However, the cardiologist took his students on Grand Rounds to examine the farmer's heart, as this was a teaching hospital. The cardiologist had his interns listen to the man's chest with stethoscopes, to listen to this irregular heartbeat-a strong, three quarter-time beat, not a steady one-two heartbeat. Sadly, the cardiologist closed the curtain in the farmer's examination room; and, turning to his student-interns, said: "This is an example of a steady gallop!" (This meant a serious, non correctable, and dangerous condition.)

The farmer, within a minute or two, rang for his breakfast, stood up, and took off his hospital gown, and slippers, and happily and hurriedly put on his clothes, boots and hat. He told the nurse "I'm so hungry for breakfast; I wonder if you serve pancakes? I feel great! I'm ready to go home!"

Amazed at his healthy, pink color, (formerly he was blue from no circulation,) healthy breathing, strength and vitality, the nurse hit the emergency buzzer for the cardiologist.

When the cardiologist arrived, he examined and found a healthy patient. Completely amazed, he tried to control his excitement and slowly asked the farmer: "Mr. Brown, how come you are so much better? What happened?"

The old farmer replied: "Well, when I came in here, I was a pretty sick pup! But for the first time, I trusted you, a good doctor...I trusted you for my care ...and when I heard you say my heart could gallop like a horse, I JUST KNEW I WAS GONNA GET WELL!!!"

This was a true and documented case of a miracle cure at University Hospital.