Sister Ronna Magargee's Testimony

Ronna was a member of the Outreach Restoration Branch until she returned

Home to her Maker on August 21, 2025

During the months of late 2019 and early 2020, Sister Ronna Magargee was put through a series of surgeries, all of which were complicated because her abdomen had been opened 14 times in the previous 20 years, and there was thereby extensive scar tissue. The surgeon who performed the last two surgeries had bungled the surgeries, and her body could no longer successfully digest food, resulting in the loss of nearly 100 lbs.

Ronna's husband and several doctors of various specialties searched diligently for a qualified surgeon to correct errors and were unsuccessful, mostly for liability issues. Finally, her gastroenterologist found a nationally known surgeon who agreed to consider her case. The gastroenterologist sent Ronna to the surgeon with armfuls of X-rays and test results. The surgeon looked through the material and said, Ronna, you are in real trouble. He stated he was going to a surgeon's seminar in a couple of weeks; some of the most notable surgeons in the Nation would be there, and he would present her case there and return with a plan to fix her problems. Upon his return, he stated that he had three solutions and one of them would do the job, BUT it would include extensive hospitalization and extensive recovery.

Several Branches and other churches were regularly praying for her. Among the prayer warriors were the five children of Benjamin and Melissa Pedersen, who made no secret of their daily prayers on Ronna's behalf. Ronna frequently told them that she felt every one of those prayers. The process consumed sixty-two days of hospitalization, and her husband spent twelve hours a day at her side for every one of those days. During those days, Ronna thanked her Savior in prayer for all the prayers, especially what she called the Pedersen prayers.

One particularly impressive incident occurred on a Saturday. The nurses were changing Ronna's bedding, and the feeding tube got tangled up in the bedding and was pulled out of her body. General panic occurred because many of her organs were no longer located where they belonged thanks to the surgery; the Gastroenterology department of the hospital was closed on Saturday, and the fourth-floor doctor was not available. The nurses were afraid that just stabbing the tube back in the hole could do well more damage than any possible good. During all of the commotion, additional nurses joined the three or four that were already there.

Sensing the mounting panic, Ronna looked up from the bed and said softly, "We're not going to find our way through this unless we calm down. I think you should let me pray for us. Surrounded by anxiety, the nurses paused. "Okay, Okay, Ronna, Okay." They whispered. As she prayed, a profound stillness settled over the room. One portion of her prayer asked the Lord to specially pay attention to the Pedersen prayers for those children had exceptional faith. Finally,

a floor doctor from another floor called the room and instructed the nurses to gently reinsert the tube into the hole, and if they felt no significant obstruction, tape the tube securely in place, and that should hold it until Monday.

Monday morning, a particularly brilliant doctor from the Gastroenterology department came in and showed that he had little interest in doing anything with matters of faith. He was about to remove the previous tube and replace it with a tube that included inflatable balls that would make it very difficult to remove the tube accidentally. He explained that it might be painful because of the extensive surgery she had recently undergone. All of the nurses, almost in unison, spoke up and told the doctor that if he allowed Ronna to pray, the procedure would proceed quickly with little pain. He reluctantly approved. Ronna once again directed her God to notice the Pedersen prayers. The procedure proceeded in what felt like seconds and with no noticeable pain.

Once the doctor left the room, the nurses asked, “What are the Pedersen prayers. She explained that the five Pedersen children were praying for her daily.

That feeding tube remained in use for the remaining time she was in the hospital, and Ronna’s husband used it to feed her for several weeks once she returned home.