

# Cancer patient feels 'blessed'

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him to his doctor's office in the first place, but that has stopped and his weight has stabilized.

Thompson says a "ray of sunlight has come through and here we are."

At this point Thompson hasn't had any follow-up CT scans.

"If you're feeling good, go with this happiness," he said. "Hallelujah!"

Thompson, who is known as the "Mayor of Main Street" because he's been a fixture in downtown for many years, said he's had nothing but support from people in town.

"The people in town everyday they confront me with lovely things they say to me, and hug me. They put me in their prayers," he said.

He said those prayers and the fact he's "fighting the fight" are the reasons he's still alive today.

"I do believe I've just been blessed," he said.

Thompson said he wasn't particularly upset when he heard the bad news from doctors. "That's when I decided to step up. I've got stuff to do."

Thompson's Georgetown personal physician (who declined to have his name used) is pleased Thompson is doing so well, but can't really explain why that is.

"Who knows, it's a bit of a miracle," he said. "He's kind of a special guy. He has a wonderful philosophy of life. He takes everyday, every minute, at a time. He's optimistic, he's got a fabulous joie de vivre."

He said Thompson's diagnosis was made through imaging (CT scans, etc.) and he didn't actually have a tissue sample done which would have provided a definitive diagnosis, but his doctors are "as certain as we could be this is a cancer."

It was also determined it was too advanced to operate on and in fact, had already spread.

"Nobody can predict life expectancy," the doctor said, but he added after Thompson's diagnosis "certainly the consensus would have been more in the range of weeks to months for sure." He added Thompson's outcome following the diagnosis he received isn't something he sees very often.

The doctor said there are a lot of factors that can impact a person's prognosis—"attitude appears to be one."

He said Thompson is enjoying every minute and he doesn't feel sorry for himself.

Thompson said he is just taking life day by day.

"If I get up in the morning, and I can go outside...Whoa, yeah," he said.

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