

September 24, 2002

Waxahachie, Texas

Dear Praying Family and Friends,

The scan was clean!

It would have been no surprise to see that much of the lymphoma had retreated. I could tell that much when the previous scan had been done - 30 days after the CAR-T infusion. The swollen lymph nodes which I could always detect with my fingers (some of them with my eyes as I looked in the mirror!) - all these had obviously shrunk at Day 30. In succeeding weeks between Day 30 and Day 90, they continued to shrink, until by the time of the scan on Day 32 (September 22), I could no longer feel any of them.

But, I also knew there was the spleen. There were all those nodes in my chest and abdomen. I could neither feel nor see any of these. Only the scan would reveal their presence. Or, their absence.

They were all absent.

Here's what's important about this result, other than the happy fact that they were no longer detectable: this cancer, in the past, had come roaring back from almost undetectable to full blown in 60 days. In this latest scan, it had been 60 days since the cancer was *barely* detectable. That it is now completely undetectable is fantastic news, precisely because this cancer in the past has been so aggressive, so rapid in the way it recovered from the therapy.

I will leave you with this for now, so that you have this news before going to worship tomorrow morning. We all have much to be thankful for. There are other things I'm stewin on; I'll write them to you in a later update when my thoughts have gelled a bit more.

But, for now, please join me in offering, as the Prayer Book puts it, a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving when we gather for worship tomorrow morning.

Unfeignedly thankful,

Fr. Bill Mouser