

'I Can't Thank You Enough': Victor Davis Hanson Shares His Gratitude and the Latest on His Recovery

By Victor Davis Hanson

I want to thank all the wonderful people who have sent me wishes of [rapid recovery and prayers](#) in so many manifestations. I cannot thank you enough, given it gave me hope and encouragement these past two weeks as I read and reread your notes, cards, and postings.

I was operated on 12/30 to remove a large "mucinous adenoma carcinoma" and also right lower lobe by the thoracic surgery team at Stanford Medical.



I had previously and mysteriously been unable to recover fully from a March 2025 flu and a series of sinus infections that led to a sinus operation, and later hoarseness and cough.

A series of various scans suggested subclinical pneumonia,

prior damage from [long COVID](#), or perhaps even valley fever.

However, the consolidation continued to grow, and I continued to feel weaker and hoarser—from what turned out to be a very hard to diagnose and rare lung cancer that is often dubbed “pseudo-pneumonia” for its near identical appearance to infection/inflammation on scans.

Many think these types of cancer are genetically driven, and I have had certainly many family members with cancers.

An accurate diagnosis is often made more difficult given non-smokers (and nondrinkers/non drug users) more often suffer this type of strange malignancy.

Luckily, and belatedly, I got to Stanford Med where, after another scan and surgical biopsy, they quickly diagnosed the near-yearlong problem as a large malignancy.

In this regard. I want to thank our director at the Hoover Institution and my friend and colleague [Dr. Condoleezza Rice](#) whose support and advice on medical care proved invaluable.

The 12/30 cancer removal surgery a little more than two weeks ago went well. But as happens (I’m 72) sometimes, an arterial bleed of unknown origins developed in the recovery room.

I was very lucky that the team got me back into surgery, found the hemorrhaging, provided numerous transfusions, and got me back to recovery.

I am recovering well from the lung cancer surgery, but now mostly dealing with the after-effects of the long time under anesthesia for the two procedures, blood loss, anemia, and some AFIB, which are all mostly manifested in fatigue and weakness.

But I hope to rebuild and recover and return to work in time, especially given the frantic [news cycle](#) of the last month.

There is much to be optimistic about, despite the nasty nature of this rare nonsmoker's cancer and a few detours during recovery.

Lymph nodes and peripheral samples removed during surgery around the tumor and mass proved negative for malignancy. And a pre-op full body scan did not show metastasis.

So, I'm hoping to rebuild my strength and prepare for perhaps some sort of chemo/immunotherapy prophylactic treatment to help prevent recurrence in the pulmonary area.

I can't thank all of you enough for your kindness. It stunned me, and I will do my best to recover and see you all again on podcasts and other venues.

Sincerely,
Victor Davis Hanson

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