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# 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the

# MIRACLE AT QUECREEK MINE

By Bill Arnold

Ten months after **9/11**, less than 10 miles from the rolling hills where the passengers and crew of **Flight 93** lost their lives, this small Somerset County Pennsylvania community was about to be thrust into the international spotlight again.

**20 years later**, remember how the world watched and prayed for the *Miracle at Quecreek Mine*.



"When Bill Arnold grabbed his Colt 45 and ran out to the tool shed at Dormel Farms near midnight on July 23, 2002, he thought he would be chasing off a would-be thief. Instead, he encountered two surveyors, friends of his. "Billy, there's been an accident in the mine, and there's nine men missing. We think they're trapped under your farm."

This is a true story, a factual account of a string of miraculous events that saved lives and uplifted a nation and a watching world, as told through the eyes of the dairy farmer who had a front-row seat to the *Miracle at Quecreek Mine*.

"This book had me hooked from the forward. A great first hand story of an everyman hero thrust into a chain of remarkable circumstances that frankly boggle the mind. If you like real life adventure stories...you will love this read."

Amazon Reader

"...The story is gripping, in itself. To call what happened at Quecreek a miracle is an understatement. This book chronicles everything good about people, the fighting spirit of mankind, and quiet faith supporting it all." **Amazon Reader** 

"Bill Arnold is more than a proud neighbor, honorable American, and tireless worker. He is a gifted storyteller who was there for every grueling minute of that incredible, unfolding story..."

Wendy Bell, PositivelyWendyBell.com

"This is the story of how we all converged on Bill Arnold's farm, and over four very long days, were witness to what I can only call a miracle..."

**David E. Hess,** Former Secy. of the Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection



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### About the author and the book

Bill Arnold is Executive Director of the Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation and owner of Dormel Farms, Somerset, Pennsylvania. On July 23, 2002, with nine miners trapped by flood waters in the Quecreek mine 240 feet below his dairy farm, Bill found himself on the front lines of a rescue operation which would span 78 grueling hours, involve hundreds of rescuers, volunteers, officials, media and suppliers, several tons of equipment, vehicles and technology, and dozens of anxious loved ones. Bill's contribution to the rescue itself was significant, but in many ways has been eclipsed by his ongoing work as witness to the miracles that occurred on his property during those four days. As host to thousands of visitors who want to honor and remember the event, Bill serves as caretaker of the memorial site that sits on his property, as international media consultant on the subject of mine rescue, and as a gifted motivational speaker who shares the story of the Miracle at Quecreek Mine each year. All of this falls after his daily duties managing a significant herd of cattle on his certified organic dairy farm. Bill would say he is just a common farmer who, like so many others that night, stepped up to the challenge when God called him to it. What he witnessed, what God brought about through the rescue, changed him, changed countless other participants, changed Somerset County, and for those shining hours focused the hopes of a nation and the eyes of the world on the power of God, the resilience of the coal miner, and the relentless determination of the human spirit. Now, the legacy is carried forward through his full-color paperback, ebook, and audiobook, Miracle at Quecreek Mine. Arnold has also been interviewed on multiple national and international television news broadcasts, as well as for newspapers and radio.

In 2022, the world will once again revisit and retell these events, renewing our faith in God and shining a light on the people of America during a time when we surely need to be reminded of the goodness and resilience in all of us.

The book contains dozens of full color photographs depicting this inspirational historical event, now brilliantly narrated for audiobook with music and sound effects. The listener will become immersed in Bill's gripping true story: the fear, the courage, the desperate measures, and the miraculous intervention that happened over those four long days. An insert contains additional information from the book.

After unwittingly breaking through a 3-foot thick coal seam separating them from millions of gallons of water that had built up in an unmapped section of a long-abandoned mine, **nine miners struggled in the dark to stay alive, 240 feet below Dormel Farms.** A never-ending torrent of muddy, debris-filled water strong enough to carry heavy equipment quickly flooded their only escape, soaking their clothes and trapping them in the cold belly of the mine with no way to communicate, one lunch pail of half-eaten food and almost no drinkable water.

Above ground, Bill and a growing number of rescuers struggled to find a way to locate and reach them. What happened next ignited the nation and the world, hungry for some good news after the loss of so many lives in 9/11. In a cruel twist of irony, media from around the world found themselves descending on the same little town that just ten months earlier had endured the aftermath of a national tragedy, the crash of United Flight 93, just a few minutes away and in the same rolling farmland of Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

In the end, it wasn't the power of technology, of a massive amount of manpower and equipment, of the Governor of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Military, nor even the President of the United States that saved those nine men. Instead, all would later admit, in fact, none could deny that it was the power of God that saved them, along with the strong determination of the American Miner and the unending ingenuity of the American Farmer.

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