

- Introduction

- My name is Steve Morgan
- I'm the father of Adam Morgan, who was 21 years old when he taken from us on April 5, 1010 at Upper Big Branch.

- Ventilation

- Ventilation always bad.
- Stoppings regularly knocked out - rebuilt six one day. Very irregular and creates major ventilation concern to have 6 stoppings in one area down, however, ventilation was so bad that they were constantly tearing down and reconstructing stoppings and even required engineers to come in and help design the layout. Was in water up to his waist which restricted air flow.
- Curtain on intake side that feeds air to longwall face would be removed on a regular basis
- Ventilation was so bad he was sent home early several times, including once about a week before the explosion because they weren't getting enough air.

- Methane

- Would mention high levels of methane at least weekly

- Float Dust

- Would be times it was so thick he couldn't see.
- All return air was going to plow, pulling all dust towards his work area.
- Once he told me that they were notified an inspector was on his way in, and he was told to hurry up and apply rock dust to keep the float dust down.

- Overall Safety

- Adam would be left alone to work behind the plow in bad top to build cribs despite being a red hat, or apprentice miner, and when an inspector came out they would take him out by with a black hat, or experienced miner, as required by law.
- I told Adam to tell his boss that this practice was unsafe and he didn't want to do it and when Adam told boss, the boss told him if he was that scared, he needed to rethink his career
- Working Union v. Working Massey
 - I have worked 29 years as a union coal miner. Adam worked 6 months at Massey.
 - When safety concerns are present, I have the right as a union miner to refuse to do an unsafe job without fear of losing my job. When Adam voiced his concern to company officials, he was told he may need to find a new job.
 - Instances such as those explained to me by my son would neither be condoned nor allowed to occur at the mine where I work, but were routine at UBB.
 - this has affected me to the point that my career as a miner is uncertain and I have been pulled out of the mine due to panic attacks and anxiety.