

Former US President George HW Bush fractures neck in fall at home

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KENNEBUNKPORT:Â Former President George H.W. Bush fell at home on Wednesday and broke a bone in his neck but was doing OK, a spokesman said.

Bush, 91, was in stable condition and was doing "fine" after Wednesday's fall, spokesman Jim McGrath said.

McGrath tweeted that the 41st president would be in a neck brace.

Bush, the oldest living former U.S. president, was hospitalized in Houston in December for about a week for treatment of shortness of breath. He said he was "grateful to the doctors and nurses for their superb care" after his treatment there.

He spent Christmas 2012 in intensive care at the same Houston hospital while being treated for a bronchitis-related cough and other issues. He was discharged in January 2013 after a nearly two-month stay.

He has a form of Parkinson's disease that has forced him in recent years to use a motorized scooter or wheelchair for mobility.

Bush served two terms as Ronald Reagan's vice president before being elected president in 1988. After one term, highlighted by the success of the 1991 Gulf War in Kuwait, he lost to Democrat Bill Clinton amid voters' concerns about the economy.

Bush, the father of former President George W. Bush, was a naval aviator in World War II and was shot down over the Pacific.

He is also a former U.S. ambassador to China and a CIA director.

He has skydived on at least three of his birthdays since leaving the White House.

He celebrated his 90th birthday by making a tandem parachute jump near his summer home in Kennebunkport.

During the winter, Bush and his wife, Barbara Bush, live in Houston.

- AP