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BIONIC EYES

By Lynne Peterson

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas, especially for Randy Holloway since he had cataract surgery.

Randy Holloway, age 65, is a pilot who flies helicopters for his personal enjoyment. His active lifestyle encompasses boating, scuba diving and he bicycles with his wife upwards of fifty miles per day. He also is a clay target shooter and he really needs his eyes to focus on the targets in the air. In his financial business he does all of his work on the computer.

Randy said, "In scuba diving, you really have to see the gauges clearly. I used to have to wear a mask that was bifocal and that was difficult. Now, I can use a regular scuba mask and see what species of fish are swimming around me."

For years he used prescription glasses and said, "I call them 'cheaters' that would rest on the end of my nose. I then found myself buying more cheater glasses with an increase in prescription and that worked for some time. I would have to put sunglasses over the glasses and after awhile it became one giant nuisance."

Randy noticed a change in his vision and made an appointment to see Dr. Stanley Braverman, a board-certified ophthalmologist in Hallandale Beach.

He was referred to Dr. Braverman by his optometrist Dr. Eric Radzwill in Ft. Lauderdale. Holloway told Dr. Radzwill "he wanted to go anywhere in the country to see the best and money was not an object." Dr. Radzwill said that "he was going to send him to the best eye surgeon that he knew and that he was lucky because this eye surgeon was right here in South Florida." After a thorough eye examination and evaluation, Dr. Braverman determined that Randy had developed cataracts in both eyes and they discussed Randy's options.

Subsequently, Randy had the cataract surgery this year with the Tecnis Multifocal Lens in his first eye and ReZoom Multifocal Lens in his second eye. He said, "I had the procedure done in one eye and two weeks later went to California. Two weeks after my second eye surgery, I went to Europe for the



Whether it's scuba diving or as a helicopter pilot, Randy Holloway can now see clearly without glasses, thanks to his recent cataract surgery.

summer. There was not a single day that went by where I was not grateful for having gone to see Dr. Stanley Braverman. I am now 20/20 without glasses in both eyes in the distance, at computer range, and up close!" "Dr. Braverman questioned me after my first surgery and I told him that I would like more intermediate vision to see my helicopter dashboard; that is why he chose the ReZoom lens for my second eye. He said that the ReZoom lens would give me more intermediate area vision. He was right!" Any surgery, especially delicate eye surgery, creates some fear.

Randy said, "I have been whittled on before and anyone would have some apprehension. All I can say is that I trust Dr. Braverman; he knows what the hell he is doing and has done the cataract surgery time after time. He put me completely at ease. I actually e-mailed him after the surgery and told him that I now have Bionic Eyes!"

He continued, "They give you a list of things that can go wrong and you don't get too much sleep the night before the surgery thinking about all that stuff. When I talked with other patients who had the procedure at the surgical center and hear the positive things, you say, these are a happy bunch of campers."

Randy was impressed with the staff. "They have a surgical scheduler, Regina

Vasquez, who is amazing. You sit and talk with her for a little while and she tells you how the procedure will go. My wife is going to have the same cataract surgery with Dr. Braverman in December."

WHAT ARE CATARACTS

A cataract is formed when the natural lens of the eye, responsible for focusing light and producing sharp images, becomes cloudy and hardens, resulting in a loss of visual function. The lens of the eye is clear at birth but is one of the first parts of the body to show the effects of aging. A cataract is painless and usually develops gradually over several months or years. The onset of a cataract in one or both eyes may cause decreased night vision, impaired depth perception, and increased color distortion.

Cataracts are the leading cause of vision loss among adults age 55 and older. In fact, poor vision from cataracts affects 60 percent of all adults over age 60. However, cataracts also can result from injury, heredity, or medications, so they can affect people of all ages.

Understanding that no two conditions or patients are the same, Dr. Braverman analyzes the patient's symptoms, performs a comprehensive eye exam, and may test for glare disability and contrast sensitivity before making a diagnosis. The final decision to proceed with the surgery belongs to the



Randy Holloway, pictured here with his wife Jodi Holloway, had cataract surgery this year with the Tecnis Multifocal Lens in his first eye and ReZoom Multifocal Lens in his second eye at the Braverman Eye Center in Hallandale Beach.



The Braverman Eye Center is located at 1935 East Hallandale Beach Boulevard, Hallandale Beach, FL 33009.

patient. Your optometrist or Dr. Braverman may prescribe glasses, medication or surgery depending on your symptoms, complaints and age. Usually surgery will not be recommended until glasses no longer work to make you visually happy.

CATARACT SURGERY

What to expect
Cataract surgery is the removal of your cloudy natural lens, which is usually dissolved using high frequency ultrasound through a small (less than 3 millimeter) opening. An artificial lens is then placed inside the eye where the cloudy lens used to be.

Cataract surgery continues to improve. Recent developments include no-stitch surgery, topical anesthesia, surgical correction of astigmatism, and new upgraded lens designs. Eye drops are given to the patient to aid in the healing of the eye, which takes a few months, but the patient is able to return to normal activity almost immediately after surgery and usually sees well within just days.

If the eye is otherwise healthy, cataract surgery is successful in more than 98% of patients and they enjoy improved vision after the procedure.

ABOUT DR. STANLEY BRAVERMAN

Dr. Stanley Braverman is a Voluntary Assistant Clinical Professor at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and an Adjunct Associate Clinical Professor at Nova Southeastern School of Optometry. In addition to treating patients, Dr. Braverman, a board-certified ophthalmologist, is a medical researcher, the inventor of several eye surgical instruments and author of many articles for medical journals. He has lectured at professional meetings about upgraded lens implants and advanced cataract surgery both nationally and internationally. An initial cataract consultation can be scheduled by calling the Braverman Eye Center at (954) 458-2112 or (305) 374-8694.

For additional information please contact Regina Vasquez, Surgery Coordinator, or

visit the Braverman Eye Center website at www.bravermaneyecenter.com where you can watch a video of cataract surgery and learn more about all of the latest advances in cataract surgery and upgraded lens implants.

In addition to Dr. Stanley Braverman, a Cataract and Refractive Laser Vision surgeon, your other sub-specialty eye care needs can also be evaluated and treated. On staff at the Braverman Eye Center are Rashid Taher MD FACS and Tirso Lara MD FACS, Vitreo-retinal surgeons; David Tenzel MD FACS, Ophthalmic Plastic, Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgeon; Kevin Stewart MD FACS, Complex Glaucoma Specialist; and Eric Ciliberti MD, Neuro-Ophthalmologist. All sub-specialist surgeons at the Braverman Eye Center are Board Certified Ophthalmologists.

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