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Hall of Fame jockeys have more than horses in common

Donald Brumfield, Hall of Fame Jockey, and his two Hall of Fame Jockey friends have all had their cataract surgery done by Dr. Stanley Braverman. Donald Brumfield will never forget the day he won the Kentucky Derby, riding a horse named Kauai King to victory at Churchill Downs. "It was the thrill of my life," he recalls about that day in 1966. "I felt on top of the world."

Later that year, Donald and Kauai King also won the Preakness, taking two legs of the Triple Crown.

When Donald started riding Kauai King for trainer Henry Forrest in 1965, he knew right away there was something unique about his mount. "I thought he was a special horse with a lot of ability," he recalls.

Bred in Maryland, Kauai King had a history in South Florida well before his run in the Kentucky Derby. As a three-year-old, he was stabled at Hialeah, where he won easily. "I told a jockey friend, 'that's going to be my Derby horse,'" Donald remembers.

Next came Gulfstream Park, where Kauai King finished a tantalizing second in the Hutchinson Stakes. "But he came back to win Gulfstream's Fountain of Youth race," Donald says.

A disappointment followed, however. "He ran in the Florida Derby, and he didn't do well," Donald says. "But these things happen. Horses have problems, just like humans. They have aches and pains, and they don't win every time."

Things were different when the two went to race the Governor's Gold Cup in Maryland. "He won, and he won very easily," Donald says. "His confidence got better. When a horse wins a race, it builds his confidence."

Donald thinks that new-found confidence helped Kauai King perform his best at Churchill Downs. It was an unforgettable day. "I think he knew he won," Donald says. "I'm sure he was thrilled."

A horse and jockey develop a relationship, Donald says. "There's a rapport between you. I was very fortunate during my career to have an opportunity to ride some good horses. What makes a good jockey is a good horse."

Now 74, Donald hasn't left the world of Thoroughbred horses. Instead of riding, however, he works as a racing official at Gulfstream Park. His vision is very important to him, so when he noticed that his ability to see clearly was deteriorating, he went to see Dr. Stanley Braverman at the Braverman Eye Center.

At the time, Donald wore glasses, and he thought he needed a new prescription. "But that wasn't the case," says the Kentucky native who now lives full time in South Florida. "When Dr. Braverman tested my eyes, my prescription hadn't changed. He told me I had cataracts."

To eliminate the cataracts that were causing the trouble, Donald underwent a simple surgical procedure, and today, his vision is excellent. "It took about 10 minutes, and there was no pain whatsoever," he says. "Dr. Braverman has done surgery on a couple of my jockey friends, too. He is very thorough". The other jockeys were also both very famous. One won the Preakness Stakes and the Kentucky Derby riding CarryBack in 1961 and the other won over 6000 races making him the winningest jockey in the history of horse racing. Because of their jockey excellence, they have all been inducted into the Horse Racing Hall of Fame. Another thing that they all have in common, is they all have had cataract surgery by Dr. Stanley Braverman.

Since he had the procedure, Donald has been able to put away his glasses unless he is reading fine print. "My vision is very good now," he says. "I drive without glasses, I watch TV without glasses, I do most everything without glasses. I like not having to wear them."

He's very pleased with the results. "I had a good experience," he says. "I'm glad I went to see Dr. Braverman."

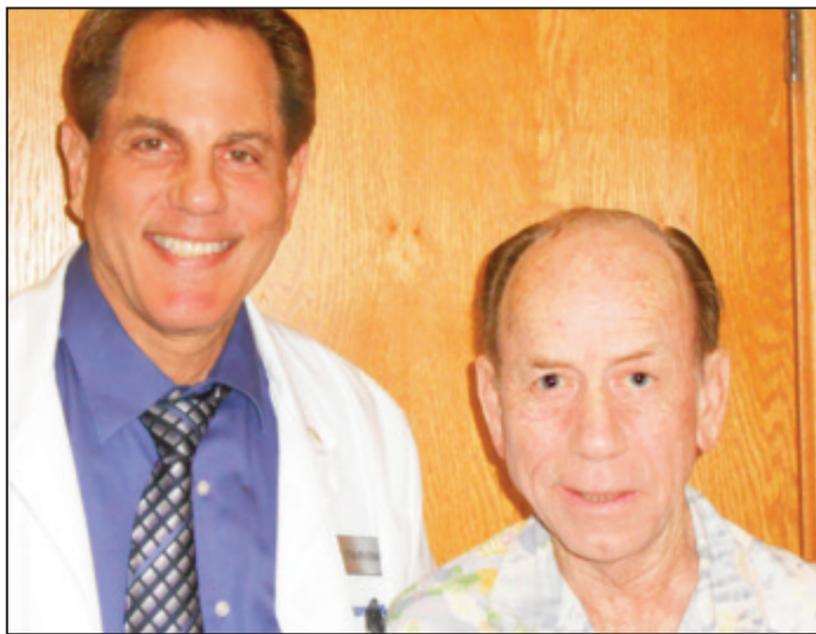
WHAT ARE CATARACTS

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



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



Caption Cover: Hall of Fame Jockey Donald Brumfield, pictured with Dr. Stanley Braverman, had many successes on the racetrack, as well as success restoring clear vision at the Braverman Eye Center.

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 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. In the case of lensectomy surgery, the patient cosmetically wants to get rid of their glasses.

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 premium 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 University of Miami School of Medicine and the Anne Bates Leach Eye Hospital/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. He is also an Adjunct Associate Clinical Professor at the Nova Southeastern School of Optometry. In addition to treating patients, Dr. Braverman, a board-certified ophthalmologist, has been a medical researcher, and is 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, advanced cataract surgery and LASIK, both nationally and internationally. He has recently been recognized by Newsweek Magazine as one of the Fifteen Leaders in Laser Eye Surgery in 2011, and recently co-authored a book on Z-Lasik that is being distributed internationally. You can find it on Amazon.com.

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 Refractive Cataract and LASIK Laser Vision Correction 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; Aarup Kubal MD FACS, Complex Glaucoma Specialist; Jesse Pelletier MD, FACS, Corneal Surgeon; and, Eric Ciliberti MD, Neuro-Ophthalmologist; Ryan Y. Hargreaves OD and Valerie Croteau OD. All sub-specialist surgeons at the Braverman Eye Center are Board Certified Ophthalmologists.

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