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# ATTENTION TO DETAIL PAID OFF

By Lynne Peterson

Rock Dampier is a carpenter by trade who knows how to bring out the beauty of the grain in wood. In 2008, he noticed a change in his eyesight, and doing small tasks made his eyes feel gritty, almost as if they were "going against the grain."

Rock Dampier was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, when rock n' roll music was just beginning to emerge. The state is known for hard woods, such as oak and maple; and as a woodworker, Rock has built some very fine, handcrafted jewelry cases with intricate inlays of exotic woods.

Rock was in the Navy, and after his discharge he worked steadily as a carpenter in Denver, San Diego, and Houston. He finally ended up in South Florida due to the flip of a coin. The bet paid off because Rock has worked at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport for more than 22 years where he supervises 21 employees, including carpenters and plumbers. Recently, his crew built computer tables for passengers waiting in the terminal.

Rock wore glasses for driving, but he became very concerned when he noticed a cloudiness to his vision. One of his passions is riding a Harley Davidson motorcycle, but the changes in his eyesight made him stop riding his bike.

Rock said, "I consulted my optometrist, Dr. Barry Kay, and he suggested I need to see an ophthalmologist. Dr. Kay said he referred his cataract surgery patients to Dr. Stanley Braverman.

Then at work, one of my carpenters said he went to Dr. Braverman in Hallandale Beach and he was very good. So, I looked in my health insurance referral book, and the doctor's name was there, so I made an appointment."

After a thorough eye examination and evaluation, Dr. Braverman determined that Rock had indeed developed cataracts in both eyes. Last year, Rock had



**I am very happy with my cataract surgery," says Rock Dampier. "Dr. Braverman's attention to detail really paid off."**

the cataract surgery, and a Tecnis Multifocal Lens was implanted in both eyes a few weeks apart.

Any surgery, especially delicate eye surgery, creates some anxiety.

Rock said, "I was nervous about the cataract surgery because my eyes are very important to me; my eyes are my work. My cataract surgery went better than I ever expected, and I was conscious the entire time. The staff, especially Regina, are very nice and calmed my nerves. The procedure went like a snap."

He added, "I am very happy with my cataract surgery. My eyes used to have a cloudy haze, and now my vision is clear and bright with colors appearing more vibrant. I would recommend Dr. Stanley Braverman to anyone who requires this type of procedure. Even the guys at work have noticed that I am smiling more."

"Dr Braverman's attention to detail really paid off."

### 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 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](http://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 at the Braverman Eye Center. On staff 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.

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



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