

By Jody Robinson



Testimonial: Mayo Retina

When Dr. George Mayo called to express an interest in participating in upcoming issues HB Magazine, I had no idea then that his call would literally save my sight.

During the course of our meeting, we got to talking about the fact that nearsighted people are more susceptible to a retinal detachment. I have worn glasses (and later contact lenses) since elementary school to correct my nearsightedness, but never knew that I was at increased risk (a retinal detachment is a separation of the retina from its attachments to its underlying tissue within the eye).

Dr. Mayo explained that the initial symptoms may include flashing lights and floaters.

I didn't have any symptoms, but just to be on the safe side, I made an appointment the following week for what I thought was going to be a routine exam resulting in clean bill of health. As it turns out, I had a retinal detachment that was threatening to cross my field of vision and had I not gone in to see Dr. Mayo, I would have very likely woken up one day having lost the sight in my left eye.

I am a member of Kaiser Permanente and as luck would have

it, Dr. Mayo had previously been an attending physician for Kaiser before opening his own practice in Fountain Valley. He immediately called Dr. Suri Appa, a fellow ophthalmologist at the Kaiser Medical Offices in Yorba Linda and was able to coordinate an appointment that afternoon. I've come to discover that this in and of itself was no small feat - as one of the program's leading eye specialists, Dr. Appa's schedule is booked weeks in advance.

Dr. Appa confirmed Dr. Mayo's findings and I went in for emergency eye surgery to repair the detachment the following morning. Dr. Mayo checked in with Dr. Appa on my progress and called me to see how I was doing after the surgery and throughout the healing process. I can't say enough about the level of care I've received from Dr. Mayo (Mayo Retina is located at 16543 Brookhurst St. in Fountain Valley).

It's been a couple of months and I'm happy to report that I'm on the mend - my vision has changed because the surgery changed the shape of my eye, but the detachment was caught in time to save my sight and for that, I owe both Dr. Mayo and Dr. Appa an enormous debt of gratitude.

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