



CHARLES HOFFMAN



Age: 72
Hometown: Kailua Kona, HI
Surgeon: Dr. Jon F. Graham, MD, LLC, Honolulu, HI
Procedure: XLIF®
Surgery Date: December 14, 2010

Life Prior to Surgery: For years, Charles worked as a utility worker for an airline company. His job was physically strenuous and, as time passed, he developed severe back pain. Charles underwent his first spine surgery in the hopes of alleviating his pain. The procedure successfully relieved his symptoms for six years, until he began experiencing back pain again and was forced to retire.

"I have no regrets of having the surgery, because I know the consequences of living without it." -Charles


Charles managed his pain with physical therapy and exercise, which he described as a "hard gym routine." When he began losing control of the lower part of his body, he submitted to several diagnostic tests, which revealed multi-level deterioration. At this point, Charles knew that he needed a second surgery and scheduled a consultation with Dr. Jon Graham, who was recommended to him by his diagnostician. After reviewing the case, Dr. Graham recommended the minimally disruptive XLIF (eXtreme Lateral Interbody Fusion) procedure.

Situation Today: Charles underwent XLIF surgery on December 14, 2010. The day after his surgery he was able to stand up and walk, and was discharged from the hospital three days later. Charles required the assistance of a walker until he was stable enough to only occasionally require the usage of a walking stick. Today, he is able to walk without any assistance and happily reminisces about his recent trip to Dublin, Ireland.

Important Note: As with any spine surgery, there are potential benefits and possible risks associated with the XLIF procedure. Individual results will vary. It is important that you discuss the possible risks and potential benefits of XLIF with your doctor prior to receiving treatment, and that you rely on your physician's judgment. Only your doctor can determine whether you are a suitable candidate for this procedure.

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