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*Dr. Marion J. Maloof, D.C., B.C.A.O.
1235 Pleasant Hill Road
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Dear Dr. Maloof,

Please accept this letter as an expression of my gratitude for your help in removing the pain of my fibromyalgia. I have suffered these agonizing and debilitating muscle spasms in my back for at least thirty-five years. Each year the pains were more frequent and caused more problems with activity in my daily life.

When I first began having the spasms, every doctor I went to told me they didn't know what to do to ease the pain, what caused it in the first place and no one knew of a cure. The general consensus at that time was "It's all in your head. Learn to live with it." Well, needless to say, this was not what I wanted to hear. As time passed and I continued to live in pain, several other doctors were asked for their opinions with the same results. Finally, about twenty years ago, one doctor diagnosed my problem as Fibrosytis. He still didn't know how to cure it but at least it had a name. I contacted the Arthritis Foundation who sent me some brochures, said it was now called Fibromyalgia, the cause being possibly a former trauma but still there was no known cure.

I gradually got no more relief from Over-the-counter medications and finally was given Lortab, a very potent pain reliever. After several years of taking this medication, I had increased my own dosage until taking the pills made me physically ill. I had my GP at the time change the prescription to Darvocet. This helped for a time but, again, I began to take more and more to allow me to live a half-way normal life.

I had been working in the office at my son Ken's business and had been forced to leave work early or not come in at all because everything I was doing at work was aggravating my back spasms. Finally, around Thanksgiving of 2005, my son forced me to retire as he could see things were getting worse. Days spent in bed because I could not walk. losing 20 lbs. in just a couple weeks because I could not eat. The pain killers were not working so I was taking more and more until I was becoming a "pain-pill junkie."

By Christmas, 2005, my children became really concerned because their mother was not their mother any more. Talking to me on the phone made them realize that my mind was not in very good condition, my speech was slurred, I couldn't remember things that had just happened. In other words, my brain was really getting fried from all the narcotics I was taking just to be able to partially function.

I don't remember much from November, 2005, until April, 2006. I did have a heart cath operation in which a stent was placed in my heart but it is all just a blur. My daughter, Julie, who lives in Ohio, talked to my son, Bernie, who lives in Sugar Hill, GA and expressed her concern that "Mom isn't Mom any more". Bernie, got on the internet, searched until he found someone who specialized in this type of condition. That someone was Dr. Marion Maloof and, miracle of miracles, he was located in Lawrenceville. Right in Bernie's backyard.

An appointment was made, Dr. Maloof spent three hours that day examining my poor broken body, two more hours that same week, three hours the next week and, praise God, I could walk again. The first day I went to see Dr. Maloof I was shuffling along all bent over like I was 90 yrs. old. I'm actually 75 and now I feel like a very young 75. I have been coming into the office once a week for adjustments and feel like a new woman. No more narcotics, my mind is clear, my life is full of joy again and I say "Thank God for a man like Dr. Maloof who really cares about his patients and doesn't just put them off with drugs." If not for this wonderful chiropractor, the rest of my life would have been spent in agony, lying in a bed doing nothing but vegetating until I died an old, miserable person. Now I look forward to many years of doing things like going to Braves games, street fairs, antiquing with my family and lots of other Fun things - WITHOUT PAIN!!!

Thank you with all my heart, Dr. Maloof. (Juan & Rachel, too)

Nancy Criss