

"It is with great pleasure and thankfulness that I share the following:

In late May of this year (2001) I began treatment with Dr. Marion Maloof. Previous to my finding out about his specialty field of chiropractic care, Atlas Orthogonal, I had suffered for nearly two years from chronic and severe pain in my neck, shoulder and upper back. Initially, I interpreted and treated the ailment as I had treated previous sports related pain that I have incurred from playing tennis and golf (ibuprofen, stretching exercises, ice packs). After a few months I realized that this pain was not going to give up easily, and that I may need outside intervention. So, I embarked on a long and painful journey in an attempt to alleviate this constant pain that seemed to be altering the very way in which I was able to live and enjoy life. I tried traditional chiropractic care with another chiropractor before I met Dr. Maloof, and experienced no success. I turned to my primary care physician (PCP) to explore other possibilities. He prescribed a combination of physical therapy and an arthritis drug. After just two weeks I developed several side effects from the arthritis medication, including extreme muscle fatigue in my arms and legs, and had to discontinue use. Even though the physical therapy seemed to be doing nothing and at times worsening the pain, I agonizingly endured it for three months trying to maintain hope, to no avail. I returned to my PCP, who then requested an MRI of my cervical spine and found that I had two herniated discs, but didn't feel that they were significantly herniated to press on nerves and cause the kind of pain that I was experiencing. I insisted that he refer me to a board certified neurosurgeon. In my desperation to find relief, I was even willing to undergo surgery on my cervical spine, something I could never imagine myself even considering. The neurosurgeon's diagnosis was degenerative disc disease and he told me that my condition was inoperable. I felt I had reached a "dead end" and had resigned myself to accept the pain as a permanent part of my life.

A few months later, I met Dr. Maloof and began treatment. After just two weeks I began to feel a noticeable relief of pain. After 90 days a significant amount of the pain (75-80 %) had dissipated. Needless to say, I will continue to be monitored by Dr. Maloof periodically to maintain this healthy alignment that has relieved so much of my pain.

Also, as a result of this "journey to wellness" I realized an additional benefit. I was reminded of something that "deep down" I've always known, **NEVER GIVE UP !!**

I enthusiastically encourage anyone who is experiencing chronic pain of any kind to inquire further into Atlas Orthogonal chiropractic health care with Dr. Maloof.

Debbie Figurilli, "patient", Atlanta, GA