

## **THYROID, HEAD AND NECK CANCER TESTIMONIALS**

**“After seeing my Primary Care Dr. for a large lump in my neck that didn't respond to antibiotics he referred me to see an ENT specialist. I was wrong in my thinking about the military health care system because immediately they showed me I was in good hands. I have been treated better than I could ever imagine. As you all know when you are diagnosed with Cancer (especially when you are as healthy as me) it will suck the life out of you and drop you to your knees.**

**I have always said that things happen for a reason and in this case I was blessed to be treated at Portsmouth Naval Hospital. The Dr's and their staff are phenomenal! The doctors have spent endless hours with me (yes, hours) talking to me about my diagnosis, my treatment plan, allaying my fears, and going out of their way to let me know they were in this fight with me.**

**I truly feel blessed to have all of my procedures at this wonderful facility. I have become very personal with all the staff in the departments involved in my care and have shared emotions with them to the point I feel they are more than just my caregivers; they are my friends. They are true professionals, who also happen to be caring people. If you do not give them a chance to do your Cancer treatment(s) then you will be missing out on the personal relationship, care, support and friendship that you will never get anywhere else. They have shared many hours with me, either personally in the office, or on my cell phone. I have never been rushed through an appointment and they have been more than gracious, courteous and simply put, are an amazing group of people!” -- Bob, Head and Neck Cancer –**

**“After nearly 20 months of cancer remission, I began to suffer from chronic right tongue pain, and a few months later, I was diagnosed with a recurrent squamous cell cancer of my right tongue. This was of course shocking as a young man with no risk factors for oral cancer. I then began the arduous journey through surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy treatments in the Otolaryngology and Oncology Clinics at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth. I was very fortunate to be treated by a compassionate and highly competent professional staff at the Naval Medical Center from my nearly 14 hour surgery, to my 6 day hospital stay post-op, to the care I received after my discharge from the hospital, and during the 6 long weeks of radiation and chemotherapy treatments.**

**I can't have imagined having had my cancer treatment any place else, and I live today, ten years cancer free, in large part because of the heroic efforts of the doctors, nurses, and corps staff who took care of me as a patient. Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, and the Otolaryngology and Oncology Departments truly are part of the First and Finest of the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth!” -- Andy, Tongue Cancer --**