



MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
4585 WASHINGTON ST., SUITE B4
FLORISSANT, MO 63033
(314) 921-1129 FAX 921-9532

TRAVIS & NOLEN

ORAL AND MAXILLO-FACIAL SURGERY, P.C.

165 N. MERAMEC, SUITE 300
CLAYTON, MO 63105
(314) 726-2755 FAX 726-9538

MARK L. TRAVIS, D.M.D. SCOTT F. NOLEN, D.M.D. HIRAN R. FERNANDO, D.D.S.
Diplomates American Board of Oral
and Maxillo-Facial Surgery

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I wanted to take a moment to inform you all of my current situation and most of all thank you for all the support you've given to me, my family and our practice.

As you all may know, I have been retired from the practice of oral surgery for approximately a year. I officially made the decision to retire back in March of 2014 when I was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor. I underwent an excisional biopsy in November 2013 after I had a sudden onset of symptoms. The diagnosis was an oligoastrocytoma (stage III), and the decision was made to undergo chemotherapy and radiation. I was under the great care of the talented physicians, surgeons and oncologists at Barnes and St. Luke's West Hospitals. Unfortunately, the tumor has since increased in size and my symptoms have continued to worsen. After many efforts and attempts with various therapeutic options, I - with the strength, love and courage of my family - have decided to withdraw treatment. I have been fortunate to be able to enjoy my retirement with my family and friends, as my quality of life has truly been outstanding. However, my speech and my ability to read, write and communicate have declined rapidly in the past few months. Therefore, I am writing this letter to you, (with the help of my wife Ann, and my practice partners Scott and Hiran), because I cannot and will not be able to express my gratitude to each of you individually.

I have known many of you for decades. I have seen your kids and families grow up and have kids and families of their own. I cherish those memories and I cannot thank you enough for allowing me to be part of your lives both professionally and personally. It has been a great honor to have been able to see and treat your patients, family and friends. I sincerely thank you all for entrusting me with the privilege of taking care of the people around you. The overwhelming love and support I have received over the past year from all of you has been tremendous and means so much to me and my family going through such a difficult time.

Thank you all so much for the memories. I wish you and your families many years of good health, success and happiness.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Travis DMD
Diplomate American Board of
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery