



Ralph P. , 56
Lebanon, TN

PROBLEM

“I had real pain in my right shoulder at the top all the time. I couldn’t sleep on that shoulder and if I turned over onto it, it would wake me up. We thought it was arthritis; it kept constantly hurting and hurting.”

SEEKING HELP

“I saw my family doctor and he sent me to Dr. Petty. He said Dr. Petty was a very good doctor in this type of situation and did these shoulder operations.”

DIAGNOSIS

“They took X-rays and Dr. Petty found some bone spurs which Dr. Petty felt were causing part of the problem.”

OPTIONS

“Dr. Petty said he could operate and it would probably take care of the pain or that I could put off the operation and do therapy and take medicine for the pain. I decided to have it done.”

OPERATION

“Dr. Petty found the rotator cuff was also torn and he repaired the rotator cuff as well as removing the bone spurs. He did it the new way.”

RESULTS

“I can’t believe it. That shoulder has been pain free from day one!! I haven’t had a pain in that shoulder since. It’s never even gotten sore.

I told Dr. Petty what a great job he did. If it had been years ago when they had to cut on you a lot. . . I’m really amazed. I tell you, he did a great job for me. When you come out of an operation as

severe as that and you’re pain free it’s unbelievable. The pain was just gone.

I’m well pleased and tickled at the job Dr. Petty did.”

***Dr. Petty’s Comments:** Ralph had subacromial impingement from a bone spur above the rotator cuff. He also had a large tear in the rotator cuff tendons. I removed the spur and fixed the rotator cuff with the Arthroscopic Double-Row repair technique that I devised 2 years ago, using 5 small portals instead of a formal incision. I feel this repair is at least as strong as the open technique and certainly causes less pain and scar tissue formation. Ralph was a good teammate in this process and deserves the credit for his good outcome.*