

A Note from Leslie

Patient letter

Who would have thought forty years ago while Dr Gregg and I were busy honing our skills at UCLA dental school that we would enjoy almost three decades of working together? Who would have thought two months ago that I would be retiring? Neither of us! I have spent my career preaching prevention and now it is my turn to take the preventive advice of my Drs and retire. Please have no concerns regarding my health. My surgery two months ago was completely curative, and I am managing my health well.

Forgive me for not talking with you personally, but my heart could not stand telling each of you how you have enriched my career. Yes, I would have been able to hug you one last time, but would have been a teary heap all day long, day after day. Poor Carolyn would be stressing about how far behind schedule I was getting as I went on and on about how I have appreciated caring for you.

I have had the perfect home here learning from and admiring Dr. Gregg's technical skill. Who finds a job that lets you work pre-school hours? Who finds a boss that values family life so much that he lets you tweak your schedule over the decades as the school day changes, and around your boys many sports events. Who finds a boss that lets you take off weeks at a time when you find your passion in dental missionary work? I did, and will be forever grateful for that. I have also had the good fortune to share the hygiene department with my dearest friend Diana, and our friendship already occupies a space away from the office. Liz and her husband will move to my neck of the woods soon so I will get to see her too!

With you I feel blessed that we have shared so many life stories; and that I have a huge file of sticky notes full of your suggestions ranging from books, travel spots, child rearing, golf tips, hiking spots, jokes, scriptural things, and even advise on the best underclothes for wearing in humid third world countries! I will miss sharing in your lives.

Dr. Gregg's team will have a new face. Please grant me the favor of giving her the time to learn about you and your likes and dislikes. I have many notes I will be passing on to her. She will have no idea at first what a fabulous group of patients she is inheriting, please live up to my bragging on you.

The whole staff here gets such fulfillment as we see your health improve. For me, this joy will be hard to duplicate in my non-working world. John is beating me regularly at golf lately so I will need to practice to remedy that, and as I predicted to many of you a year ago Nick is marrying chef Jessica in September!!

Thank you so much for your part in making my career so fulfilling.

From me who truly cares about you and your healthy teeth,

Leslie