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”

~ Patricia Macrae

Patricia Macrae can laugh about it now, but when she fell on her wrist while gardening earlier this year, she was worried she’d lost the use of her right hand. “I couldn’t rotate my wrist. I thought ‘this is going to be it,’” she said. Patricia is an active 72-year old who, according to her husband, never sits down except to eat. She went to her family practitioner who told her to wear a brace on her wrist. After 4 – 6 weeks of wearing the brace, however, another x-ray revealed the break was worse than it was before. That’s when her doctor sent her to see Dr. Dominic Mintalucci. He performed a distal radius malunion correction, inserted a titanium plate and screws, and implanted bone to grow new cells. Three hours after the surgery she went out to dinner with her husband, and experienced very little pain. After two weeks of rehab she was back to work two weeks early with a full range of motion. She’s also back to gardening and creating bead jewelry.

“As a dental hygienist, I very much wanted to go back to work. The best thing my doctor ever did was send me to Dr. Mintalucci. He recommended him by name. We’re up in Lakeport, in no-mans land, and I heard good things about him from our patients, so I was delighted to be going to Santa Rosa Orthopaedics. I asked him if I’d be able to use my wrist again and he said “That’s my goal,” and I thought, if that’s his goal, I’m happy. Everything was explained before the procedure and the whole time I felt very comfortable. I’m so impressed. Everything went so smoothly I can’t even tell you. The last time I saw Dr. Mintalucci I said ‘You’re my hero!’ ”

