

Terminate Tonsillitis



Rochelle Randall, RN, of Sun Valley shares a laugh with **Marc Kerner, MD, FACS**, after he performed a radiofrequency tonsillectomy that ended her lifelong bouts of tonsillitis.

As a child, **Rochelle Randall** received painful penicillin shots to fight recurring tonsillitis that caused week-long fevers two-to-three times per year. "Eating and swallowing was like having pins in my eyes," she recalls. "All I could do was cry and drink 7-Up."

That was in the 1970s when physicians didn't recommend tonsillectomies (removing the tonsils) because tonsils help fight infection. Twenty years later, studies proved tonsillectomies are beneficial in some cases, followed by the invention of a less invasive radiofrequency tonsillectomy procedure.

Rochelle learned about radiofrequency tonsillectomy at Northridge Hospital Medical Center where she works as a nurse in the **Critical Care Unit**. That's where she met **Marc Kerner, MD, FACS**, Otolaryngologist, who is one of the

few surgeons in the area who perform the procedure.

"The radiofrequency device uses a pointed instrument and heat to excise the tonsil tissue," conveys Dr. Kerner. "It's a safe, effective procedure that reduces the size of the tonsillar tissue instead of removing the tonsils entirely."

Rochelle returned to work two days after the procedure and hasn't had tonsillitis since. "It's been unbelievably life-changing," Rochelle asserts. "I've suffered in pain my whole life, missing important holidays and events. But not anymore. I can't thank Dr. Kerner enough."