Texas Spine & Scoliosis

MAIN OFFICE: 1004 West 32nd Street, Suite 200 • Austin, TX 78705

Appointments & Referrals: 512-324-3580

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Off to Hawaii after scoliosis surgery restores grandparent's active life

LouRae lived with a spinal curve through

much of her adult life. But symptoms emerged when she was in her 40s. She noticed she could no longer even endure a four-hour car ride because of searing pain that would radiate down into her leg.

Ultimately over the following years, the leg pain worsened, limiting even her ability to walk or get around. "I began to be concerned that if I didn't do something fast, I was headed for a wheelchair," LouRae remembers.

Her physician referred her to Dr. Rory Mayer at Texas Spine

& Scoliosis. X-rays revealed she had been living with a severe 36 degree spinal curve that was now pressing

on the nerves in her low back, causing the searing pain into her leg.

"Reviewing the X-rays and the extreme spinal curve, Dr. Mayer knew immediately what was causing the leg pain, and what surgery was needed to resolve that," LouRae remembers.

"Dr. Mayer emphasized to me 'We can fix this!' which gave me the hope I needed. It would be a major surgery to correct the scoliosis. But he made me feel so secure going

into the surgery. This was in August and my daughter in Hawaii was due to have a grandson in October. I was determined surgery was the only way I could make it to Hawaii to see that grand baby."

The surgery went well and the result was dramatic. "Waking up after surgery, it was amazing; the pain in my leg was completely gone," Lou Rae exclaims. "Recovery after surgery would involve exercises to restrengthen muscles in my legs and I was improving with each week. And yes, I made the long 10 hour flight to Hawaii in October with no problem and I'm loving the time with that grandson."





The spinal curves caused by scoliosis can worsen as a person ages, putting pressure on the spinal discs, nerve roots and internal organs which can shorten a person's lifespan. For LouRae, surgery would be needed to correct a 36 degree spinal curve that potentially could have put LouRae in a wheelchair. Surgery performed by spine surgeon Dr. Rory Mayer and his team successfully corrected the curve and instability in her back.