

BARIATRIC DIGEST

BARIATRIC NEWS FROM THE
SURGICAL WEIGHT LOSS CENTER OF UTAH
JUNE 2005

LARRY'S STORY

After many bouts with weight control, 63-year-old Larry Tingey is finally shedding the weight after having gastric bypass surgery in November 2004.

Dr. Christina Richards, a surgeon for the Surgical Weight Loss Center of Utah at Salt Lake Regional Medical Center performed the surgery and is the only female surgeon in the state of Utah to perform bariatric procedures. Both Dr. Richards and Larry are amazed at the progress Larry has made in the few months since surgery.

"With the co-morbidities that Larry was suffering from, we weren't sure we could put him under anesthesia," explains Dr. Richards.

Larry suffered from over half of the co-morbidities related to obesity including; high blood pressure, sleep apnea, high cholesterol, acid reflux and heart disease.

"The first time I met with Dr. Richards, it was all I could do to get from the parking lot to Dr. Richards' office. "I knew going into the surgery that I might not make it," says Larry Tingey. "I was relieved to wake up in the ICU and the first thing that came out of my mouth was a question to Dr. Richards. Did you do it? If it hadn't been for Dr. Richards and her confidence in her ability to do this, I don't think I would have ever found a surgeon to do it."

Larry, a contractor by trade and a former professional baseball player with the St. Louis Cardinals organization, now prepares to live life to the fullest. Since surgery Larry has increased his physical activity including running and finishing 14 miles of the Salt Lake Marathon. Larry now goes by one simple motto:

"I eat to live, instead of living to eat."

**B
E
F
O
R
E**



**A
F
T
E
R**

