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- Lattie Evans



ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CLOSE TO HOME PROSTATE CANCER PATIENT RECEIVES FAST, LESS PAINFUL TREATMENT WITH CYBERKNIFE

Evans moved to Reno to be closer to his daughters. When he arrived, he had already been diagnosed with prostate cancer at a Veterans Hospital in Fort Polk, Louisiana in 2012. Evans presented with an elevated Prostate-Specific Antigen level during a routine physical exam.

“No one really thinks that it would be them,” Evans said. “I thought I was doing everything right. But I got that news, and for some reason, it seemed like a death sentence. My next question was, ‘Man, what do I do now?’”

At the time of his diagnosis, doctors told Evans the only course of treatment would be invasive surgery to remove his prostate.

“I wasn’t ready to lose any organs yet,” Evans said regarding why he declined that treatment option.

Doctors began to treat Evans’ enlarged prostate with medicines like Finasteride and Terazosin. He began to feel the results and started making lifestyle changes as well.

“I knew I need to change some things, so I did a lot of investigating into how dietary changes can help,” Evans said. “I didn’t have as much energy, but I still continued to exercise.”

When Evan’s prostate shrank to an operable size, doctors again urged him to have invasive surgery. But Evans declined and began looking at other options.

“It’s 2016,” Evans said. “I know they have better ways of treating cancer than just to put you on a table and cut you.”

By the time he moved to Reno, Evans already knew he wanted to find a hospital with a better treatment option.

Then he found Saint Mary’s Center for Cancer and its CyberKnife Center, which offers non-invasive, precision radiation therapy in five or fewer treatments.

“I’m one of those believers that everything happens for a reason,” Evans said. “The move brought me to Reno and Saint Mary’s.”

He received five CyberKnife treatments over three weeks in September.

“The team at Saint Mary’s is phenomenal,” Evans said. “Words can’t explain it. They were nice, kind, treated me like they actually cared.”

Now, Evans is an even stronger proponent of the benefits of CyberKnife treatment.

“I would recommend that to anybody,” Evans said. “Especially guys. If you get an early diagnosis of prostate cancer, that’s the place to go.”

