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new You

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Darlene

HAS FUN

with plastic surgery

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DARLENE ERIQUEZZO is a stunning and successful 30-year old wife, mother and business owner. Although the first thing you notice upon meeting her is the contagious smile radiating from her flawless face, it is but a brief moment before you notice the considerable curves that adorn her otherwise tiny frame. Dress her in a trendy ensemble and give her a few accessories, and she becomes a real live Barbie® Doll.

Although never short on confidence or good looks, Darlene had been considering a breast augmentation for quite a while. In her early twenties, her job as a staff trainer at Hooters restaurant chain constantly exposed her to a variety of female figures. She always admired the women with fuller breasts, so for a time, she used pushup inserts to enhance her size B cup. After four years and much consideration, she decided it was time to research a more permanent solution.

Having endured several uncomfortable consultations with other cosmetic surgeons, Darlene was relieved when referred to Dr. Robert A. Colgrove of the Vinings Surgery Center. "He made me feel comfortable right away," says Darlene. After carefully explaining the procedure, Dr. Colgrove advised Darlene to peruse a well known men's magazine and find a picture of a figure she would like to emulate. Sure enough, when she went in for surgery, there was the picture torn from the magazine and taped up on the operating room wall.

Although it took several months for her implants to settle to a more natural position, Darlene has had no regrets. She adores her new look and her husband jokingly thanks Dr. Colgrove daily. Darlene comments, "They look just like the picture that I gave Dr. Colgrove – only better!"

After such success with her first surgery, Darlene thought Dr. Colgrove could perhaps improve her nose, which she felt was not ideally suited to her face. Although he told her that he thought her nose was just fine, he did say he could make an improvement if that is what she truly desired. Once again, Darlene was



Darlene AFTER rhinoplasty



Darlene BEFORE rhinoplasty



Darlene BEFORE rhinoplasty

The Physician's Perspective

Procedures:

December 11, 2002: Breast Augmentation

September 30, 2003: Rhinoplasty

March 8, 2004: Botox™ Cosmetic injections to forehead

August 2, 2004: Botox™ Cosmetic injections to forehead

Darlene was a good candidate for both surgical procedures due to her realistic expectations and her willingness to comply with all necessary requirements to optimize her end results. The average recovery time for a breast augmentation and rhinoplasty is three weeks; however, most patients can return to an indoors light-duty occupation in 5-7 days. Patients receiving Botox™ Cosmetic injections can return to full activity in four hours with visible results in 48 hours.

Both Darlene and I are pleased with her results. Oftentimes, after patients have a good experience from one procedure, they are more willing to try other surgeries, as they have more confidence and understanding of the entire process required for successful results. It is a team effort consisting of the patient, the experienced surgeon, the qualified surgery staff, and the patient's support group. Support is necessary from all involved to obtain the best results possible!



Robert A. Colgrove, Jr., M.D.



overjoyed with the result of her rhinoplasty. She likes to brag that Dr. Colgrove is so gentle in his technique that she had no bruising at all and no visible scars from either surgery.

Darlene highly recommends cosmetic enhancement surgery to anyone with the maturity to have realistic expectations. "It won't solve all of your problems," counsels Darlene. "I always say that if you can't fix the engine, don't paint the car." She advises that you be honest with yourself about why you want the surgery and what outcome you expect. "If you are a self-confident, independent adult," she comments, "then a cosmetic improvement can really give your ego a boost." She recommends that you only undergo a procedure to please yourself, and to only consult a board certified surgeon who makes you feel at ease. In fact, she carries Dr. Colgrove's business cards in her wallet to pass along to anyone interested.

Darlene makes it clear that even the most well thought-out cosmetic enhancement



Darlene BEFORE procedures



is still surgery. The end result can often depend on how well you follow your doctor's orders afterward. She also cautions that you might experience temporary regret during your recovery. Thoughts of "everyone is going to know" and "did I make the right decision" will haunt you during the first few days. But as soon as the pain subsides and the healing process begins, all of those thoughts melt away as you are able to comfortably admire the improvement.

Darlene remains a loyal patient of Dr. Colgrove – she stops by the office for regular Botox™ injections to her forehead to ward off wrinkles, and she plans to have her neck tightened before the year is out. She is honest and forthright about her reasons for having these procedures. While happy with herself as she is, she just looks at it as her battle plan to fight off the signs of aging by getting an early start. Her advice to anyone considering cosmetic enhancement? "Just have fun!"

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A special thanks to Gabriela Voiculescu of Skincare by Gabriela for providing her skincare services to Darlene in preparation for her photo session. Call 770.928.1314, or log onto www.skincarebygabriela.com, for more information.

Darlene's hair was done by Arnie Kerlin of Three 13 Salon and Spa in Marietta. 770.427.3761.

Her makeup was done by Emily Gahn of Jordan at Lenox Salon. 404.442.7235.





She's a
Barbie
Girl!

By **Kay Morgan**
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Jeremy Adamo of
Haigwood Studios