

Dental Implants

My mother would be proud...

Today's technology has improved all aspects of our lives. People are living longer and expect a better quality of life well into their 80's and 90's. Dental implantology allows for the replacement of one or all teeth with attached crowns and bridges or removable overdentures. This area of dentistry not only replaces function, increasing the overall ability to eat and speak but can dramatically improve our physical and emotional well-being. It's no fun when you can't enjoy a steak dinner or you have to place your hand over your mouth when you speak. We address these issues regularly and have many options to help you live a fuller, happier life.

Mrs. Shirley Reed came to our office with dentures that did not fit. She couldn't eat and felt that her face was shrinking. Fortunately, she had been spared the extensive bone loss common to most patients who have worn dentures for many years. We were able to eliminate her upper denture by placing dental implants and making a fixed bridge. She also has dental implants and bridgework on the lower jaw. Mrs. Reed began enjoying her new smile and eating a normal diet in about six months. This is her story:

"Growing up in Randolph County (Pocahontas), dental treatment was hard to come by due to a shortage of money. Although it wasn't easy, my mother made sure I had my teeth cleaned on a regular basis. It was very important to her that I had healthy teeth. But despite my mother's good intentions my teeth began to abscess at an early age and the only option available was to have them removed. My dentist recommended I have all my teeth taken out and a denture made during my Sophomore year in high

school. My mother insisted that we wait until I graduated, so I wore partials until I was nineteen and then went into dentures."

"At 67, I decided I was tired of living with ill-fitting dentures. My face and my confidence seemed to be shrinking daily. My ability to eat was slim to none. My many years of wearing dentures as well as my osteoporosis was taking its toll on me. I knew about dental implants and began to search for the right dentist, knowing what an important decision it would be. I

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began my quest by scheduling numerous consultations. I discovered that it wasn't going to be easy to get dental implants because I would have to go to two different offices. One dentist would put the implants in and another dentist would make my new teeth. I felt very concerned because I felt this approach could get very complicated. I began to think there was no hope for me and then I read about Dr. Jirik. I thought if others

were driving to Cabot to see him, he must be worth a try."

"From the moment I stepped in the door I felt completely comfortable. Dr. Jirik completed a thorough examination and we discussed my treatment options in detail. It was great to know he could do all my work

in one place. After visiting with Dr. Jirik I knew I had found the right dentist to do my dental implants. I couldn't be happier, today I can eat practically anything including carrots. My confidence has increased. I feel better and I look better. My mother would be proud that my smile is back."



Mrs. Shirley Reed

Samuel F. Jirik, D.D.S.

Dr. Samuel F. Jirik is an Arkansas native and long time Cabot resident. He and his wife, Kim, have two children, William, 10, and Annalise, 7. Dr. Jirik has been practicing dentistry since 1986 and has placed and restored more than 3,000 dental implants since 1989.

Dr. Jirik received a

bachelor of science degree in Health science from the University of Arkansas in Little Rock. His dental degree was obtained from the University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences in 1986.

Dr. Jirik recently spoke after former Arkansas Razorback Football Coach, Lou Holtz, at a dental conference in Kansas City.

He holds positions such as:

- Diplomate, American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry
- Fellow, American Academy of Implant Dentistry
- Past President, American Academy of Implant Dentistry, Southern District
- Fellow, American Academy of General Dentistry
- Past President, Society for the Preservation of Oral Health
- American Dental Association
- Arkansas State Dental Association

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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