



**Renee Bradley, 64**  
**Reston, Va.**  
**Inova Mount Vernon Hospital**  
**December 6, 2019 surgery, right hip**  
**Orthopaedic surgeon: Robert Sershon, MD**

Renee Bradley's life has always been about family. She has an adult daughter in Las Vegas and welcomed the birth of her first grandchild two years ago. A native of California who grew up near and in Modesto, she always had brothers, sisters and parents nearby and her world focused on caregiving and volunteering for the church.

Always physically active and someone who walked nearly everywhere, Renee broke her right leg while running an errand and getting onto a bus about three years ago. "I had no insurance and wasn't working at the time, and after I left the hospital my leg just didn't heal right." The pain increased to the point that another family member – her sister Robin in the Washington, DC area – encouraged her to move east so she could now be cared for.

Even Robin's husband Randy was supportive and encouraged Robin to buy a condominium in Reston where Renee could live. Renee moved in a few years ago. Today, they are three miles apart and often spend weekends together. Renee acclimated to east coast life, got a job at Safeway where she still works part-time, and joined a church.

And yet her pain continued for a few more years so that everyday activities became difficult. "Getting dressed and just walking is challenging," says Renee. "I work long hours and by the end of the day I really do need to get off my feet. I also use a cane now." After getting more medical attention through free community healthcare services, she was finally told she needed right hip surgery. With no insurance and little savings it was family again who provided support.

Robin had heard about Operation Walk USA, did some research and within a year received the news that Renee was approved for surgery. She will be operated on at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital on December 6 under the care of Robert Shershon, MD.

"I can't wait to get back to life," says Renee. "Family and coworkers are cheering me on and saying that I can do this." With two brothers on the west coast and Robin nearby, Renee has a great support group as

she plans for surgery. "The pain can take a toll on your mentally and physically," she adds. "Everyone is here for me now."

"We will have a traditional holiday season together," says Robin. "I love to bake and buy all the gifts and hope to have all five of my grown children home to celebrate Christmas." As for Renee, she plans to visit her daughter in January. She'll continue working until she's earned more money and then would like to retire and move closer to her daughter in the years ahead.

For now, she's taking it "one step at a time." And a step she'll soon be able to take pain-free with her family around her.