

Lori Roth, 56, Orlando
Left hip replacement
AdventHealth Carrollwood
January 6
Dr. Steven Lyons

Lori Roth has always been a woman committed to family and seeking adventure. A native of Tulsa, Oklahoma who eventually moved to Orlando, Lori worked in real estate and the car auction industries. She owned a horse, enjoyed gardening, hiking, swimming and even jumping from planes. Her brother Brent owns a sky diving company in Las Vegas.

She also has a sister in Tulsa; a daughter and a son with two daughters of his own in Houston. “I’ve never met my grandchildren – Evelyn, 6 and Elena, 3, as I haven’t been able to get on a plane in recent years,” she says.

Life changed for Lori in 2014 when she was struck by a car in a hit and run accident. She broke both her tibia and fibula and had a rod inserted from her left knee to her ankle. As time passed, she developed necrosis and severe osteoarthritis. She had no insurance, wasn’t getting proper nutrition and had to do her own rehab. After six months she returned to her car auction work. By 2017 and while on the job she heard her right hip pop and was diagnosed with a fracture. The right hip collapsed and she couldn’t walk without a cane or rollator. “The pain was excruciating.”

Lori says she is religious and relied on her spiritual strength to help find a solution. After searching the internet, she discovered Operation Walk USA. It was 2021 and she realized the deadline to apply that year had passed. She did so in 2022 and qualified for surgery with Dr. Steven Lyons at AdventHealth Carrollwood where she had her right hip replaced last year. Dr. Lyons will replace her left hip on January 6.

“I am so grateful to everyone involved,” says Lori. They all work so tirelessly to help us and have been wonderful. There aren’t words to express my gratitude and appreciation. I truly couldn’t put on socks or shoes or dress myself – it’s was the daily challenges.”

“I want to get back on a bike, go to the beach, jump out of a plane again!” After her surgery last year her dad told her he would buy her an airplane ticket to see her sister’s daughter graduate from high school in Tulsa. “It was wonderful to see family and sit in those bleachers and watch my niece receive her diploma. After this surgery, I can’t wait to get on a plane to meet my granddaughters.”

Lori is also thinking about going back to work. Having been a nurse’s aide earlier in life, she’s wants to get vocational rehab experience and is eager to get the training she needs to move in that direction. “I can’t wait to enjoy so many of the things I was able to do before.”

Lori should be able to do so many of those things again soon. Adventure and more family travel are just around the corner.