



“My Vasectomy Didn’t Mean An End To Our Ability To Have Children”

Sergeant First Class Randall Taylor and his wife, Captain Connie Taylor, had a change of heart. With two older girls from a previous marriage and one younger girl of their own, Randall made the decision to have a vasectomy in 2000. Both were near 30-years-old at the time.

“I was up for officer training and we felt the demands of that program would keep us from being able to manage another child,” says Connie. “After a two-year tour in Korea, and a delay in my officer training, I began to feel a desire to have another child.”

In 2003 they were assigned to Fort Jackson and the couple began to aggressively research their options to have more children.

“We read everything on the internet and saw a number of references where men like me were still able to father a child,” says Randall. “A reversal was ruled out so my interest turned to a treatment called TESE.”

The treatment Randall read about involves a small incision and an extraction to bypass the vasectomy. Randall contacted one clinic in the Columbia area and was told the procedure could not be done. “Actually, that didn’t deter me. I’m very determined. I keep asking questions until I find someone with the answer I want to hear.”

Further research led the couple to Advanced Fertility & Reproductive Endocrinology Institute in West Columbia. “We

simply called them on the phone and explained our situation,” says Randall. “They immediately made us feel comfortable and told us they could help.”

“It was an emotional rollercoaster,” says Connie. “We didn’t have full confidence that it

could be done until our consultation with Dr. Gail Whitman-Elia at Advanced Fertility. She took an unbelievable amount of time with us to explain the procedure and map out a plan of action. We knew right away that we were in good hands.”

Connie was placed on medication to stimulate egg production and Randall had his TESE extraction. Eighteen eggs were retrieved from Connie and three grew to the point they could be transferred for natural growth in her uterus.

“We were so excited and, to tell you the truth, really wanted a boy. We got the news the Connie was pregnant and not with just one child but with two! We couldn’t wait to learn what we were having,” says Randall. “When we had the ultrasound and saw it was two boys, I have to admit I almost cried.”

“The entire staff at Advanced Fertility was wonderful. You could tell they were pulling for us every step of the way and they were always so caring. We think that’s a direct reflection on the leadership of Dr. Whitman-Elia and her compassionate style. Their team is absolutely first-rate.”



To contact Dr. Whitman-Elia, call (803) 939-1515.

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