

December 30, 2003

Dear Dr. Flowers:

It was a pleasure speaking to you on the telephone. I'm sorry I had to postpone my trip to Honolulu but I promised my mother that I would come to visit her sometime during the summer or early fall. Once those arrangements are made, I will schedule an appointment to see you.

On the telephone you asked me what impact the surgery you performed on me has had on my life. As you recall, my initial approach to cosmetic surgery was one of fear and trepidation. It helped considerably that you are a born again Christian and that I was able to share my faith with you in an open manner. The values that we share helped to ease the concerns that I had in undertaking such a task. After much prayer and discussion, I decided to go through with the recommendations that you made.

It has been said that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." However, it certainly helps to have a skilled surgeon like yourself who has mastered the art of transforming an individual to become physically more than what she was. To say that you have eliminated twenty years of my life is not an understatement. People could not believe the transformation that took place as I began to heal from the surgery. Following a considerably long marriage which ended in divorce, I look younger today that I did when I was married. Although I am currently 56 years *young*, people commonly think that I am in my mid to late 30's. I say this not in an egotistical fashion but I believe that my physical appearance accurately reflects my inner self in being basically young at heart.

However, with age and experience, comes wisdom. I am thankful for my life's experiences but I am also grateful that my face and body does not have to reflect that of a middle aged woman. In fact, Gail Sheehy in her book, *New Passages*, states that a woman in her 40's, 50's, and 60's experiences great productivity in her life.

God has blessed me with so much in life. I am continuing to work on my book, I love my job, and I have also become an entrepreneur!

Once again, thank you for everything; especially for making the world a more beautiful place.

God's abundant blessings to you and your family for much health, prosperity, and success in the New Year!

Aleta