

Dear Dr. Yousefian:

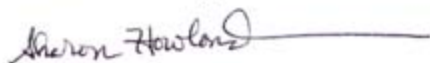
When I first consulted you, there were many certificates on the walls where I waited, indicating that you were well-educated. Having experienced failure previously with another orthodontal practitioner, I remained skeptical whether or not you could really help me. If you recall, I sought your help because TMJ had made it impossible for me to chew comfortably and created headaches that totally stopped me from thinking well at all. After X-rays, digital pictures, and plaster molds had been done, using a computer, you showed me why I suffered so. I was shocked to learn that, in trying to get my teeth to mesh, I had pulled my lower jaw right out of its sockets and made new indentations in the lower bones! You then suggested two possible solutions: a splint or repair of my jaw with braces and surgery.

***Choose jaw surgery at age 68?*** At first, I scoffed. Specialist and expert that you were, however, Dr. Yousefian, your explanations made everything very clear: live with my imperfect, awkward genetic inheritance of too small a jaw, buck teeth, and a lisp when speaking while wearing a splint *or* go for the braces and jaw surgery (eventually) and end the worry of more problems developing simply by my aging. (Since, at that time, my mother was 94, I realized that I probably had almost 25 more years of chewing to do and that I would like to do so, problem-free; so, on went the braces.)

At each visit, Dr. Yousefian, you gave me personal attention and, thanks to your soft-spoken manner, put me right at ease; plus your gracious, professional staff were always available, each competently able to address any problems or discomforts that arose.

As for those certificates, Dr. Yousefian, I came to realize that they are not just paper on your walls but, rather, the reflection of an expert unlike any other. You see, like the rainbow tale, at the end of my stormy weather, you helped me find a pot of gold at one end—that of better health. Such a blessing to *feel and to know that--every day*. Thank you.

Most sincerely,



Sharon Howland