



Teacher and volleyball coach keeps up with students thanks to new high-tech hearing aids

Meet Danny Rogers, a 63 year-old high school teacher and volleyball coach. Danny lived for years with a progressive hearing loss that made it difficult to hear his students. Now that he wears hearing aids, Danny says he's a better teacher and coach because he no longer misses a word.

Progressive Hearing Loss

Danny doesn't know when he began to lose his hearing because it was so "gradual and unnoticeable," he says. Over a long period of time, he began to notice that he had trouble understanding people, particularly his students at school. His wife was also making comments about how loud he would turn up the television. But even after he realized that something was different, he found it difficult to address the problem.

"At first I just didn't notice it happening. And then I went into denial saying 'I'm not losing my hearing and I'm going to be ok,'" Danny recalls.

Eventually, Danny understood that he was having problems hearing and decided to visit his audiologist, Dr. Tiffany Ahlberg. Danny's hearing loss was confirmed, and although Dr. Ahlberg recommended he get hearing aids, he just couldn't bring himself to get them.

Problems Hearing at Home and at Work

But Danny's problem did not get better. At school, he frequently asked his students to repeat themselves. Not only was Danny frustrated, but the students were frustrated as well.

"I wasn't as effective in the classroom because of my hearing loss," Danny says.

At home, his wife was encouraging him to seek treatment, just like she had been doing for years.

"My wife was telling me all along that I needed to have my hearing tested. But I was constantly defending myself, saying 'you're talking too fast, slow down, that's the reason I can't hear you,'" Danny says. "She would say things, but I just couldn't understand her."

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Seeking a Solution

After years of frustration, Danny decided to go back and see Dr. Ahlberg, who gave him several hearing aid options. While the first hearing aids that Danny tried improved his situation, when he went back to Tiffany for an appointment, she suggested that he try Siemens Pure® 700 to better meet his lifestyle needs.

Once he tried Pure 700, Danny noticed a big difference.

“When I first tried the Siemens hearing aids, it was so much better. It was the difference between daylight and dark,” Danny says.

The clarity of sound was better with the Siemens aids, he says, and they allowed him to hear all the sounds around him, even sounds like paper rustling. In addition, Danny appreciates the fact that Siemens Pure 700 is subtle and discreet.

Danny also recently began using Siemens Tek®, a wireless enhancement system that allows him to connect his Pure hearing instruments wirelessly to various audio devices like TVs and cell phones. Tek communicates with his hearing instruments by transmitting stereo audio signals using *Bluetooth*® wireless technology.

Improved Quality of Life

Wearing hearing aids has improved every aspect of Danny’s life. His relationship with his wife, for example, has improved because he is finally able to understand what she says.

In addition, he noticed that his relationship with his sons has improved. Danny often plays golf with his two sons, and only realized after receiving his hearing aids that he was missing out on conversations on the golf course because he simply couldn’t hear them. “Now, we have interaction when we play golf. They have both said they could tell a big difference,” Danny says.

Most importantly, Danny can clearly hear his students in the classroom and athletes on the volleyball court.

“I am able to interact with my students,” Danny says. “I can understand better.”

Before Danny began wearing his Pure 700 hearing instruments, he was concerned about the cost and was doubtful about spending money for hearing aids. But now he understands the priceless benefits of treating his hearing loss.

“I thought of hearing loss as a minor inconvenience until I saw the impact it was having with my wife and at work. I realized how frustrating the hearing loss was after I got the hearing aids,” Danny says.

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