

Thank you!

These two words just don't seem enough to express my feelings to all of you for the outpouring of cards, best wishes and, most of all, your prayers I've received.

The morning of surgery, just before the anesthesia was administered, I had asked for Versyd, an absolutely wonderful calming medication that definitely relaxes the patient before drifting off into dreamland. During this time I told the OR crew, 'if you're feeling a bit crowded this morning, it's because there are so many 'Guardian Angels' sitting on your shoulders watching out for me'!! The next thing I knew I was in recovery with my 'repaired' heart beating away as it should be.

Each day I get a little bit better than the day before. I've been instructed by my surgeon to take it easy and go slow. (He doesn't know me that well, does he?) That's the hardest thing I've had to do so far, but, after a few short (sneaked) trips to Ralphs or Rite Aid, I haven't driven. Another instruction—no driving for 5 to 6 weeks!! I caught it when I got home from my husband for not doing as Dr. Salem instructed.

I hadn't really known how 'ill' I was until I made the trip to SRD and, even tho' I was singing, which sounded ok, I should have been home. Live and learn!

Again, from the bottom of my repaired heart, beating very happily, I thank you so very much for your caring thoughts, love and prayers. You are my family as you have been since I first became a JOPS member, oh so many years ago. I'm ready for my full recovery and return to doing what I love.

Oh, next time we see each other, give me a hug. I've missed those the most.

Love and hugs,

Rhoddie

