

Surgeons

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Locations

Indianapolis - Northside
Indianapolis - Southside
Avon
Fishers
Greenfield
Kokomo
Lafayette
Rushville
Terre Haute
Westfield

Dear

I am writing to let you know that I will be retiring from *The Indiana Hand to Shoulder Center* at the end of this year. It has been my absolute honor and privilege to care for you and your family for the last 37 years. *The Indiana Hand to Shoulder Center* was founded in 1972, just a year after I graduated from high school. In 1978, I first worked with the staff and fellows from 'The Hand Center' (as we called it back then). Then I came back home to Indiana in 1986 and have been there ever since.

As we enter the "end of year countdown" relative to insurance deductibles and possible planned procedures, I am happy to see you for any remaining hand, wrist, or elbow problems that never went away or continue to be a problem for you. That being said, many surgical needs in December 2023 will be referred to one of my 11 highly capable and caring partners. Some of my long-term patients have already been referred for ongoing yearly monitoring and further care.

My partners will continue to offer you the highest standards of surgical and non-surgical care. They will provide you with a seamless transition for any continued needs beyond the end of this year. Your records will remain on file at our facility. If you choose a physician or caregiver outside of our comprehensive practice locations, you must sign an authorization for our practice to release your records to other facilities or physicians.

The doctor-patient relationship is a very personal bond, so I recognize the concern and unsettling nature of a treating physician not being available to you. I am also preparing to make a significant change in my life that has similar feelings. The office staff here is fervently committed to making this transition for you as stress free and simple as possible.

My partners' biographies and their office locations can be found at <https://www.indianahandtoshoulder.com/doctors>. Part of my decision to retire is the fact that *The Indiana Hand to Shoulder Center* is as strong and as comprehensive as ever. My younger partners are all not only world class surgeons, but also wonderful clinicians who solve problems and take the utmost care of the needs of their patients.

For 37 years I have made it my goal to put my patients' needs, wants, and well-being in the forefront of my daily thoughts and actions. I have cared for each person one at a time and with the age-old medical dictum "primum non nocere", which means, "first do no harm". Although no one expects injury or infirmity, nor plans a trip to the Emergency Department, I trust you felt cared for and listened to when those instances occurred.

As one of my patients, I hope you derived comfort when the need arose. It has been my joy to care for my patients over the years and to enjoy the kindness, friendship, and loyalty that springs from the deepest bonds of my relationships with you, my patient.

It has been my pleasure to meet and care for every one of you. I wish you health and happiness as you carry on, and as I move on.

Sincerely
Thomas J Fischer, MD