

# Advanced Concepts in Plastic Surgery

Experienced, personalized care for beautiful results • SURESH KONERU, MD



It has been a long time since you have received an email from me. I have all kinds of excuses, but mainly I've just been too busy. In addition to our normal surgical volume, this past year has seen an incredible amount of treatments with our new non-invasive technologies - [Zeltiq](#) and [Ulthera](#). We were the first to offer both of these exciting new technologies in San Antonio. Also, this past year I took off about 3 weeks to take a trip with my father to India. We saw a lot of relatives and had a great time, but one of the highlights was our meeting with the lady below, Mrs. Tatineni. If you have a couple minutes, let me tell you about her story. It is a story of charity, education, and how an act of kindness can have far reaching effects.



My father (that's him on the left) grew up in a small village in India. He did very well in school, but the village school did not go past 7th grade. Keep in mind, this was before Indian independence. One day my grandfather was telling a friend of the dilemma he faced because my father wanted to continue on with his education but there was no school for him to attend nearby. This friend told him about a private teacher in another village who taught out of his house and would be able to teach my dad up to the high school level. But, my father had no way of getting to the other village every day. My grandfather's friend offered to have my

father stay with his son's family who lived in the same village as the teacher.

Mrs. Tatineni was the friend's daughter in law. She and her husband took my father in and provided for him as they did their own children. He stayed with them and enjoyed her cooking while he studied with the private teacher. Mrs. Tatineni is now 95 years old and is in incredible health. She remembers everything about that time my father spent with her and how studious he was. She and her husband raised 3 children who have become very successful themselves. My father did well with the teacher and the teacher was able to help my grandfather find a high school for him to attend. My dad went on to continue his education in the Land of Opportunity in 1958, earn a PhD in Mechanical Engineering, and have an

**incredibly talented son.**

**It struck me when we were there visiting Mrs. Tatineni that were it not for her generosity, my father's education would have ended in the 7th grade. He may have just taken over the family farm and who knows what would have become of me! I would probably be on a rice farm knee deep in rice right now.**

**Thanks to her family, my father was able to continue his education and I was fortunate enough to have the incredible opportunities that I have had. If you are reading this, you are probably a patient of mine and Mrs. Tatineni's generosity has affected you as well.**

**So it is on this MLK day, I ask you to think about how you can make a difference in someone's life this year. It doesn't have to involve taking in a pudgy little kid who just wants to study like Mrs. Tatineni did; it could just be something as simple as mentoring. In fact, you may see a high school student shadowing me this year as she learns what it is like to be a doctor.**

**Consider this quote from Martin Luther King Junior: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" "**

**Let me know on your thoughts on your next visit or just send me an email to: [saplasticsurgery@gmail.com](mailto:saplasticsurgery@gmail.com), I look forward to hearing your ideas.**

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