

Dear parents and patients,

I am writing you to express my humble thanks and appreciation for the trust and confidence that you have given to me and my staff over the last thirty years. You have given me the privilege and honor of being a part of your families and lives while providing your orthodontic care. It is not something I have taken lightly.

My wife and I have come to the decision that it is time for us to step aside from our family business (many of you have spoken to Sharon, without knowing she is my wife) and into the next exciting phase of our lives. I have been searching for the right person to take over my practice. I wanted someone who shares my values and practice philosophy. Someone who treats their staff like family and makes the patients and their families feel comfortable and at home in their practice.

I was blessed and fortunate to find not one person, but two people — Dr Bob Nudera and Dr. Jim Nudera, brothers and best friends, will be taking over my practice, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Dr. Bob and Dr. Jim both graduated from University of Illinois at Chicago for both their DDS and Orthodontic residencies. Both Dr. Bob and Dr. Jim have been practicing orthodontics for 20 years. They are both board certified by the American Board of Orthodontics and have worked in the Rockford area for the past 13 years. Not only are they extremely accomplished orthodontists, but they also share the same passion for exceptional patient care.

I will be around for a short time in an advisory role to help make a smooth transition for our patients and staff. The practice will remain in the same locations, and all of the team members that you all love and trust so much will be staying on as well. They were as much a part of my success as I was. I know Dr. Bob and Dr. Jim will provide the same excellent care for all of you and future patients as well. Everyone is in very good hands.

I will be forever grateful for having had the pleasure of knowing so many wonderful patients and families. We are not going anywhere, so if you see me around town, don't hesitate to say hello.

Dr. Dennis J. Flanagan