

# The Brown Report

Burdine & Brown | Workers' Compensation, Personal Injury, Disability Law | Gwinnett & Georgia

## CPT. MATT RINGS ALWAYS FLYING HIGH BUT WITH EXTRAORDINARY HELP FROM ABOVE



During the entire ordeal, Captain Matt Rings kept on working at his active duty station at Pensacola, Florida. Matt's job as an eye surgeon for the US Navy pilots stationed there was never at jeopardy. From time to time he would travel to other Navy installation where he would lecture to younger Navy surgeons about new surgical techniques. Matt has always been on the cutting edge of his profession. Certainly, there were a few occasions where his cancer treatments necessitated less strenuous duties. The Navy has always been able to accommodate him.

In October 2019, the chief cancer surgeon at Tulane University Hospital informed Matt and Toni there was nothing, no form of treatment that could contain the cancer's development inside his liver. Hope seemed to quickly fade. The long struggle seemed to be drawing to a close with the inevitable result expected of many of the virulent forms of cancer...death.

But then, by the grace of God, Matt and Toni found an experimental cancer treatment program offered in Heidelberg, Germany. This form of treatment is not FDA approved here in the US. However, in Europe, this treatment of cancer has had excellent results.

This form of treatment is not insurance approved, either. Payment has to be made in cash on its equivalent and made up front. It costs \$12,000 per session. Matt and Toni sent his

If you have ever had any aches and pains, or if you ever had a much more severe medical condition, especially one that lingers for weeks and months, then you take those conditions seriously. You probably listen more attentively and sympathetically to others as they tell their stories. But if you have been diagnosed with one of the most feared diseases, cancer, then you fight fear and the disease itself.

This article introduces my readers to my excellent friend and one of my spiritual leaders, US Navy Captain and Flight Surgeon, Matthew Rings.

Matt and his lovely wife and champion, Toni, lead a small prayer and study group as part of North Point Community Church. My wife, Carmen, and I are an active part of this group.

About two and a half years ago, Matt broke the news to us that he has active

prostate cancer. As he explained it to me, his internal medicine doctor gave him a PSA test and it looked normal. However, just after this examination his PSA number "took off." By the time he received a re-check, things were out of control.

Matt has received extensive treatment from a number of the best cancer treatment facilities in the United States. Some of these treatments have helped to arrest the cancer inside his prostate, or at least keep the cancer from spreading. But at other times Matt would report to us that the cancer has spread to his liver and to his bones. He would then move on to other exhaustive and painful treatments at other facilities better suited to care for him.

His doctors, highly trained and well respected by their colleagues, at various times have told Matt that he did not have long to live. He has fought though these "pronouncements"

The information contained here is not intended as legal advice. Your receipt of this newsletter does not mean I am your attorney. If you need legal advice or an attorney, consult personally with a legal professional.





this couple, the verse that comes to mind is from Psalm 4:1: ***"To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Psalm of David. Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer."***

scans, test results, medical records and reports to Heidelberg and within days the Hospital's Cancer Program told Matt he was accepted. In early November 2019, he boarded a plane and was off to Germany. He was to receive high doses of radiation to his entire body on one day only.

The next day, while full of radiation, his body was scanned and the doctors reported to him that the radioactive substance had attached itself to all the cancer in Matt's body and was in the process of killing all of the cancer cells. From this point he must return every 2 months for 3 more sessions to continue these treatments.

However in early January 2020, Matt received word from the Heidelberg doctors who admitted the treatment had only worked for 3 weeks before the cancer "roared back even worse," says Matt. All further treatment in Germany has now stopped.

Miraculously, Matt and Toni have found a new chemotherapy treatment through an oncologist at MD Anderson, a cancer specialty hospital in Florida. The focus is Matt's liver condition.

Throughout the last two and one half year, Matt and Toni have experienced the ebb and flow of the various treatments he has received.

We have always marveled (no exaggeration) at their loving praise to The Lord at all this, even at the lowest of times. When I think of

Matt and Toni have conducted an Aviator's Bible Study during his entire cancer treatment. They have hosted a Pensacola and Atlanta Small Group Bible study and prayer groups as well. Nothing, not even chemotherapy has kept them from giving loving service to those around them during their time of need.

What an example these folks are to all of us. There have been times when Matt could barely get out of his chair, weak from chemotherapy or radiation given to him a few days earlier. This did not keep him from praising God for all he and Toni have been blessed with. They would always say, "It is well with my soul...my joy is in the Lord!"

I submit to you that as we sometimes want to grumble, sometimes complain outwardly to others about our undeserved bad situation, we just need to look at others who have struggled beyond our imagination yet are upbeat with the hope set in their hearts by the message of Christ Jesus.

I would respectfully request that as you finish reading this article, you would feel compelled to pray to God for continuing progress in fighting the cancer that has been inside Matt for so long. I know Matt and Toni would appreciate it very much as thousands of folks they have touched in their service work are also praying for his complete healing by the power of the Holy Spirit of God. Amen!

## About Tom Brown

Tom has been handling workers' compensation and disability claims since 1979. He is a founding member of the Workers' Compensation Claimants Lawyers (WCCL) and an active member of the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association. He helps to change injured workers' lives by fighting for the best medical care possible, which ultimately produces the best settlement for the injured clients he and his team represent.



Tom and his wife, Carmen travel to Uruguay, South America, to help build and strengthen struggling local churches and organizations. He has been to Uruguay 25 times in the past 19 years and loves this work. They have made many wonderful friends over the years.

## LAW OFFICES OF BURDINE & BROWN

**A newsletter about workers' compensation claims, personal injury claims, and social security disability claims and extraordinary people.**

### Gwinnett Office:

1186 Satellite Boulevard NW  
Suite 200  
Suwanee, Georgia 30024  
770 | 623-6007

Thomas F. Brown II  
Attorney

#### Free Consultation

At Burdine & Brown there is no charge or fee to meet with us for an initial consultation about your situation.  
Call: 770 | 623-6007

**ADVERTISEMENT**