Dr. Taylor with his wife's extended family members, many of whom are life-long PV Peninsula residents.

Dr. Taylor & his family. From left to right, back row: Jonathan, Hudson, Dr. Taylor, Alison, Caden Front row: Titus, Dallas, McKenna, Jordan

Dr. Derek Taylor
AT TAYLOR CHIROPRACTIC & LASER CENTER

Derek Taylor was born in Hawaii in a little town called Wahiawa. When he was five-months-old, his father went fishing on a surfboard and never returned. The Coastguard found his board 35 miles out to sea three days later with large schools of Tiger sharks in the vicinity where he was fishing. His mother needed to support the family so she packed up her three sons and landed a job at Hughes Aircraft in El Segundo. Three years later she met a wonderful man and remarried. The street that Derek grew up on had a ton of kids and the main sport they played was football. Derek played the sport as early as he could remember. As he got older, he dreamed of following in his brothers' footsteps, all who had excelled in the sport at Bishop Montgomery High School (one of them receiving a football scholarship). Derek ate, lived and breathed football at Bishop Montgomery and trained for it year-round. During one of his training sessions, he injured his back so badly that he could barely walk. Derek was devastated. Football was his life. He went to a chiropractor and the treatments actually made him worse! Someone recommended a different chiropractor and this one helped him so greatly he was able to play football again. He couldn't believe his problem was fixed! Derek was so inspired by his results that all he wanted to do was help others experience the same thing he did. He knew he had no other choice but to become a chiropractor.

Derek learned another invaluable lesson by playing the sport of football. If you were to be successful, you had to give it 110%. He went from being the life of the party in high school to a book worm that would lock himself in his room with a stack of textbooks on Friday afternoon and not come out until Sunday evening. Derek went from a high school goof-off with a 2.5 GPA and a SAT score of 832, to a 3.9 GPA in undergraduate college. When Derek entered chiropractic school, his goal was to be Valedictorian of his class. He appeared to be on course after his first semester, as he was only one of two classmates who received straight A's in a very demanding course of 35 units of hard sciences and a class schedule that was Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM, year-round. However, the following semester, Derek received his first B. He was devastated and fell into a depression. He did a lot of soul-searching and realized that the key to being a successful chiropractor was not getting straight A's but helping people get the results they desired. A new sense of purpose overcame Derek with his new focus not being so much on academics but learning how to become the best he could be at adjusting the body and helping others get the same results that he did in high school. Derek never became Valedictorian of his class, but more importantly, he became proficient in the 'art' of chiropractic. He still managed to graduate Magna Cum Laude and his classmates saw his passion and commitment to the profession, voting him 'Most likely to Succeed' in his class.

When Derek graduated from chiropractic school, he and his newlywed wife were barely struggling to get by while working for a chiropractor in Torrance, making $600/month. He had to make a change and accepted a job in one of the largest clinics in Northwest Ohio where he made 10x the amount he was previously making and saw over 100 patients/day. However, Derek became disheartened as many of his patients were not getting better, in fact, some of them were getting worse. Derek struggled with his confidence as a doctor, in his profession and belief in what he was doing. He felt he was doing his employer a disservice by not giving the absolute best of himself, so he decided to leave the company and move back to California. Derek decided to open up his own office at the South End Tennis Club in 1997. He had no patients, no capital and no clue on how to run a business. How would he provide for his stay-at-home wife and their new baby boy, especially when some of his patients would get worse with his treatments? Derek knew that if his business was to succeed, he had to make his patients happy by getting results that exceeded their expectations. He immersed himself in every seminar he could attend on discovering the root cause of people's pain and getting the fastest results one could possibly attain. Did he make a lot of mistakes learning how to take care of patients and run a chiropractic office? Absolutely! It's why they call it a 'practice' and not a 'perfect.' But with each mistake, he learned from them and improved little by little over time.

The results that he began to see was very encouraging. Each year the approach he used became more refined and the technology he added to the office became more advanced and innovative.

Derek started seeing tougher and tougher cases and found himself often as a last resort doctor that people saw after many other practitioners were not able to help. For example, Leslie Clark came to Taylor Chiropractic & Laser Center on the recommendation of her friend who had her long-standing foot pain fixed with pressure wave technology at his office. Leslie was a flight attendant for many years and greatly damaged her neck during a flight when the plane instantaneously dropped 500 feet. During the sudden drop, her head smashed into the roof of the plane and the food cart landed on her. Leslie was told by her medical doctors that there was no hope for her. She suffered with neuropathy for 10 years and no one was able to help. Within a short period of time of treatment using Dr. Derek's technique along with his

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