



# Our Patients' Stories

At the SCCA Proton Therapy Center we treat many cancers, including:

- Prostate
- Breast
- Ocular
- Childhood
- Gastrointestinal
- Lung
- Head and Neck
- Brain and Central Nervous System
- Sarcomas



Caroline and Baloo

## A Revolutionary Treatment That Attacks Cancer, Not The Patient.

Proton therapy is an advanced radiation treatment that precisely targets tumors, with the goal of minimizing radiation to healthy tissue and improving the lives of patients while they're fighting cancer and after. Proton therapy deposits the greatest amount of radiation right into the tumor and then stops, allowing patients to receive high doses to the tumor, with minimal dose to nearby healthy tissue.

**We're amazed by the strength and resilience of our patients, and we love discovering their stories, each unique, brave, and heartfelt.**



### Ricky - Prostate Cancer

When he was first diagnosed with prostate cancer, it hit Ricky (left) hard. He shut down and wouldn't talk about it with anyone. He was scared. But when he found SCCA Proton Therapy Center, that changed. "My insurance was initially denied. But the Proton Center did a great job with financial help. Boy, oh boy. I felt a lot better. I knew that this was the place I was supposed to be. I told my sister what was going on, and then my kids. I felt a lot better about talking about it because I had some hope. Then I got a call from the Center, and the gal said: 'you're approved.' Of course, I cried then. Yes, I did." Treatment was easy for Ricky, and he is now back at work, driving all over the US and Canada, and is happy to report that he's not suffering any uncomfortable side effects.





Declan and his piggy

## Caroline - Brain Cancer

University of Washington student Caroline was focused on her master's in social work when she experienced cognitive problems, such as not remembering words. An MRI revealed a malignant tumor that was growing and needed to be operated on immediately. Following surgery, Caroline began proton therapy treatment as part of a randomized clinical trial. Faced with the shocking diagnosis at a young age, she wasn't sure what to expect with proton therapy. However, she is grateful that she was selected to receive proton therapy because it is such a highly targeted form of radiation with the goal of protecting surrounding healthy tissue.

## Declan - Childhood Cancer

Declan is a sweet, active 4-year-old boy with an infectious smile who loves trains, tractors, boats, his stuffed monkey and his imaginary pig. But after some sudden regressions in his development, doctors discovered a softball-sized tumor in his brain. After an arduous period of multiple surgeries and chemotherapy, Declan was well and cancer free for a year and a half. And then he had a relapse. This time, radiation was a must. His parents were worried of what that might do to his three-year-old brain, but proton therapy is a great option because its precision allows oncologists to spare most of the brain and vital organs while treating the tumor. Declan's mother says:

**"Everyone at the Center knew how scared I was and helped me with expectations. They took care of both Declan and me. Radiation was a breeze compared to chemo. Declan loved coming, he even asked to go on the weekends! Life is so good now. Declan is one of the happiest kids you'll ever meet. He has a joy for life that humbles me every day."**

You can find more patient stories on our website at [www.SCCAProtonTherapy.com](http://www.SCCAProtonTherapy.com).

If you'd like to schedule an appointment or to find out more about proton therapy, please call our Patient Navigators at **888-645-6934**. Our Patient Navigators are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.