

REBECCA L.

Pianist, Yard Work Enthusiast,
Golfer

Pendleton, IN



Rebecca enjoyed golfing, working out, mowing her yard, all types of yard work and most of all, playing the piano until she started experiencing thumb pain about 6 years ago.

“I don’t even have to think about doing things with my right hand now, I just do them.”

“My life was very active before I developed arthritis in my thumbs. I could play the piano a little, but once the pain hit, I would stop, or not even start. I also use yard work as exercise, but my thumbs would be so sore after using a push mower I’d have to wrap them in a heating pad. My workouts no longer included push-ups or lifting weights, and arthritis took me out of my golf game as well. It got to a point where I would massage my thumb all of the time, take medications for the pain, or wear a thumb brace.

When I finally sought treatment, I wanted no part of the recommendation: thumb joint reconstruction. I suffered until January 2018, when I met with a different specialist, who told me I was a candidate for the Cartiva[®] Grip 2 Clinical trial where they would replace the cartilage in my thumb joint.

My Cartiva implant surgery was on March 2, 2018 and by April 19, 2018, I was out of my cast and began physical therapy. There was **no pain** where the implant was placed in my thumb joint. In fact, I was **playing the piano about 3 or 4 weeks later**, and just a couple of weeks later, I opened a bottle of water. Then, a couple of weeks after that, I opened a jar of pickles. I was also able to cut the grass, lift weights again, and do push-ups.

I am so happy I was **lucky enough to be considered for the Cartiva implant**. My left thumb reminds me how badly the right thumb used to hurt. I would certainly consider having the same procedure on my left thumb when necessary. Thank you so much for helping make everyday activities less like chores, and much more enjoyable.”

The results reported by this patient may not be typical and cannot be predictive of other patient outcomes. Individual results and activity levels after surgery vary and depend on many factors including age, weight, severity of disease, and prior activity level. Visit Cartiva.net for more information.

Cartiva’s Synthetic Cartilage Implant is not approved for use in the 1st CMC joint in the United States. Currently only available for use in Europe and Canada.