

T. Bob Davis, D.M.D.

Gifted and Giving

By Tina Cauller

People recognize sincerity. They respond to genuine caring. And when it comes to dentistry, they appreciate expertise. With T. Bob Davis, D.M.D., what you see is what you get. Simple, honest and caring, with a devotion to excellent patient care that comes from the heart. The reception area is more living room than waiting room, with comfy, overstuffed swivel chairs and recliners, a rocking chair and a fireplace. It fits — Dr. T. Bob is equally warm, friendly and real.

In the treatment areas, patients find one of the most beautiful office settings in Dallas, with large expanses of glass that provide an open and spacious feeling. Outside, the surroundings are lush and green and the sweeping view is soothing.

With a sparkling, ever-present smile, Dr. T. Bob greets every patient as a friend and immediately puts them at ease. From their initial consultation on, patients are receiving an education disguised as conversation. He places a strong emphasis on prevention. “Dental disease can be prevented in most everyone for less than the cost of a

soft drink or cup of coffee a day,” he points out. “We try to provide a healthy environment for patients to learn how to prevent dental disease and keep their smile for a lifetime. If they come with concerns or dental health issues like decay or gum disease, we try to help them navigate their way back to a healthy smile through carefully planned treatment.”

Dr. T. Bob encourages patients to pursue regular continuing care to head off any potential problems, particularly in the case of gum disease, which requires aggressive intervention to arrest its damaging effects on teeth and gum tissue. “Because each patient is unique with unique dental needs, we design a program of care that is right for each patient as an individual. That may mean returning in six months, or it may mean returning in a week or two, if necessary.”

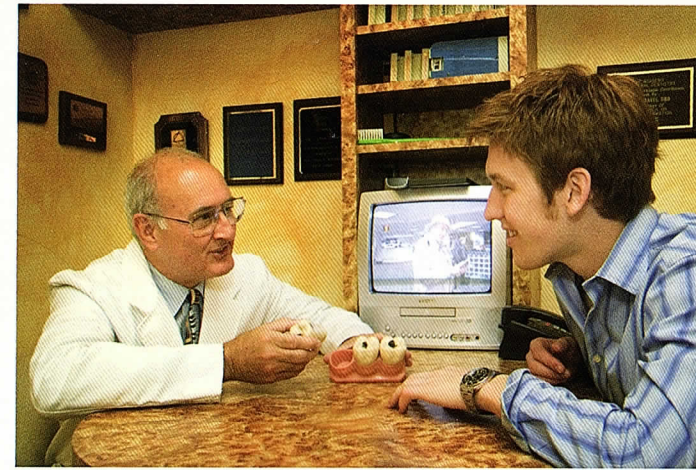
THE GIFT OF EXPERTISE

In an effort to constantly update his knowledge of the latest materials

The entire staff at Dr. T. Bob's office share his warmth and friendliness, and each is an integral part of the overall patient experience. Pictured from left: Creth, Dr. T. Bob, Stefani, Erin, Ivonne and Jason.



PHOTO BY RAY BRYANT, BRYANT STUDIOS



With a sparkling, ever-present smile, Dr. T. Bob greets every patient as a friend and immediately puts them at ease. From their initial consultation on, patients are receiving an education disguised as conversation.

and techniques, Dr. T. Bob attends as many as six dental conventions each year and considers himself an eternal student. In addition to serving as an example, he actively encourages other dentists to follow his lead in staying current with the rapidly changing and advancing field of dentistry. Dr. T. Bob brings those advances home to his patients in

Guidelines for the Successful Maryland Bridge Procedure

For molars: Prep a mesial/distal rest (as for partial dentures), slightly adjusting the enamel from the rest above the contour of the cusp around and into the middle buccal and lingual groove, but not extending cervically beyond the width of the contour. This will be from 2-4mm in height for the wings on bicuspid or molars. NOTE: Do not extend the molar wings past the middle buccal or middle lingual groove! This will become a failure point due to tooth flexing with metal rigidity.

For anterior teeth: a lingual prep from the cervical margin of enamel to within 2-3mm of the incisal and as wide from mesial interproximal to distal interproximal as possible will give good retention.

Only slight lingual enameloplasty is necessary, except in occlusal interference areas. Keep gingulums and make interproximal slot preps for enhanced retention if needed.

For bicuspid only: Prepare the facial 2mm from the rest prep, but wrap the lingual from the rest all the way to the next interproximal. Again, aim for 180 degrees of wrap however you can get it, but no more and no less.

Use a metal like Unitbond by Jensen. Have the lab sand blast, then etch with hydrochloric acid gel for a minimum of 10 minutes at room temperature underneath all wings and rests that contact enamel, porcelain/metal crowns, or composite fillings. Be careful not to contaminate the etched metal. Rinse with distilled water and place in ultrasonic for 2 minutes. Air dry. Etch the tooth with normal phosphoric acid and use a bonding agent like 3M's Rely X after silanating the metal.

With properly adjusted occlusion and freedom from lateral excursion interferences, there is no area off-limits to Maryland bridge technology. Fifteen- to twenty-year success without debonding is normal. In case of debond at one end, leave it alone until the other end debonds. Then clean the bridge and teeth of bonding, re-etch both (hydrochloric acid for bridge and phosphoric acid for teeth) and re-bond with Rely X or equivalent. This allows a quick, one-hour turnaround, very appreciated by patients!

Dr. T. Bob works very closely with YDL Dental Laboratory in Dallas to achieve excellent metal preparation and esthetic results.

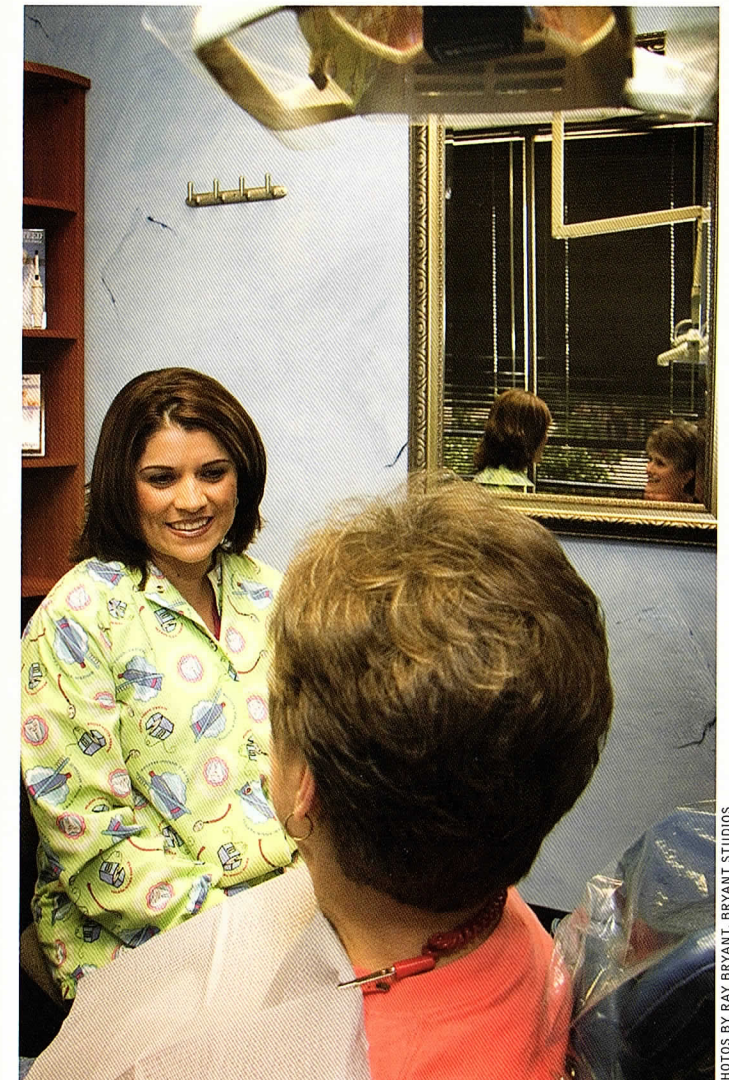
the form of cutting-edge techniques and materials.

Some older techniques, in refined form, remain staples of Dr. T. Bob's practice. His expertise with Maryland bridges allows patients who may not be candidates for implants, or who prefer a less costly solution, to obtain conservative, lasting replacements for one or more missing teeth.

Unlike a traditional bridge, Maryland bridges are bonded to the surfaces of the adjacent teeth, while preserving the structure of the healthy teeth. When done properly by an experienced clinician, Maryland bridges are durable solutions that will last for years. They can even be used in conjunction with neighboring crowns, providing one natural tooth is available to serve as an anchor for the opposite end of the bridge. The bridge rests against the crowned tooth similar to the way a partial denture would be secured, while the other side is bonded to the natural tooth.

Dr. T. Bob's extensive experience with the Maryland bridge contributes to the excellent, lasting results his patients enjoy. More than one patient has successfully maintained their Maryland bridge for 20 or more years. If a bonded attachment should fail, the tooth can be

Dr. T. Bob places a strong emphasis on prevention. His hygiene department provides a healthy environment for patients to learn how to prevent dental disease and keep their smile for a lifetime.



PHOTOS BY RAY BRYANT, BRYANT STUDIOS