CHRIS P.

Chris is a Buddhist. When he was 28 years old, he was attacked with baseball bats by a group of youths after an argument in a Chinese restaurant.

He sustained fractures of his left cheekbone, eye socket, skull bones, the greater wing of the sphenoid, and temporal bones. He was conscious when admitted to hospital, but rapidly lost sight in his left eye as his optic nerve was compressed by broken bits of bone. Chris underwent emergency surgery through an incision where the scalp is peeled down from above to expose the facial and skull bones – a bicoronal flap. Bone was removed from around the optic nerve and the bones of the eye socket and his skull and cheekbone were correctly repositioned and fixed with titanium metal plates. His scalp was replaced at the end of the operation and stured in place. After this optic nerve decompression he woke with sight in his left eye and over the course of a few days he regained almost complete visual acuity in the eye.

Chris lives with his wife Tracy and works as an actor and vacation planner. He also sings in a rock band. He has a reproduction of the painting showing him at the time of his surgery, which he keeps on his living room wall as a reminder, "If I lived through that and I can overcome any obstacle."