

Faizi welcomed me and my family to Utah when we were looking for a place to land after fellowship. His kindness and collaborative spirit were a big reason we chose to join the team here. I remember he told me how much he loved Utah and the people he worked with. Even though he had spent time in big cities like Philadelphia, New York and London, he thought Salt Lake City was a gem and he couldn't say enough good things about it. He told me that the University was a great place to work, because it had wonderful people.

Faizi told me that the University plastic surgery program was up and coming and that it was a place where great things could be done. He was grateful to Brad Rockwell for recruiting him to join the team. Faizi also saw something very special in Primary Children's Hospital. There was already a history of craniofacial surgery at PCH but he wanted to make it exceptional. He wanted it to be the best place for patients and for trainees.

Faizi did his training at some of the premier programs in the world, including Vanderbilt and CHOP, so he knew what it meant to be great. He saw that same potential for greatness here at the U and PCH. He led the way in building a world class cleft and craniofacial program. He was instrumental in keeping Barbu Gociman on the team and then recruiting Dana Johns and Erinn Kim back. I remember when Faizi came to me and said we need to bring Duane Yamashiro on our team. He said if we want to be the best, we need to have the best craniofacial orthodontist on board. Faizi loved his role as a teacher and a leader of the cleft and craniofacial team and he loved the idea of building an exceptional training program. He knew that being the best meant training the best. With that in mind, he started the University of Utah craniofacial surgery fellowship. Because of him it has become an outstanding fellowship program sought out by trainees from across the country.

Over the years Faizi and I worked closely together and we had many opportunities to talk. Early on, he gave me tips and pointers on starting a practice and navigating the U. I looked to him for advice and mentorship and he treated me like a brother. He relayed to me how nice it was to have a like-minded Desi on the team. I looked to him as a role model and leader

in our Division. I saw the great things he was doing at PCH and I learned from him.

In the later years as we restructured the Division, Sam Finlayson and I knew that Faizi's role should be as residency Program Director. He cared about the residents and he had an approachability about him that made him the right choice for that position. In that position, he helped us to transition to a fully integrated program and to increase the complement of our residents. He had a vision of what our training program should be and he led the way. I often looked to him for advice because he had a very measured and calm approach to things. He always seemed to have the right answer, and if he didn't, he would say "Let me ask Saba. She'll know. She is much smarter than I am."

Faizi was a family man. In the past few years, we talked a lot about our families. After every conversation, it was clear to me how much he loved Saba and his boys. His family was his world. He was so happy when the boys decided to stay close to home and stay for college in Utah. It meant so much to him to have them close by.

While we mostly talked about how wonderful family is and the joys of watching our kids grow up, we sometimes also talked about challenges. I remember as my kids were growing up and facing the challenges that many kids face, Faizi said to me...don't worry about any of that. Just love them and they will be fine. That's who he was. He loved. He loved his family, he loved life, he loved his patients, and he loved his faith.

Faizi also showed me what it meant to be a giving person. He was selfless. He gave his all in anything he did. He was an exceptional surgeon and he gave his knowledge to junior faculty, residents and fellows. He gave his heart and soul to his patients, he gave to his Muslim community, and he gave to the broader craniofacial community. He was very proud of the work he was able to do with Hirsche Smiles in

Guatemala. He believed that giving his time, his skill and his knowledge was an important part of what it meant to be a surgeon.

Faizi has left an amazing legacy. He will be remembered in so many ways by so many people. He will be remembered as a gentleman. When he spoke to you, his smile and his eyes conveyed a kindness and softness. He made you feel like you were the most important person in the room. He will be remembered as an exceptional surgeon and teacher. He was skillful in the operating room and always made it a point to teach those skills to the residents and fellows. His trainees are spread throughout the country carrying on the great work that he taught them. He will be remembered as a healer. He touched the lives of countless patients and families, always trying to improve form and function. Because of him, kids across the Mountain West are thriving physically, socially and emotionally. He will be remembered as a loving father and husband. He cared so deeply for his family. They were at the center of his thoughts in every conversation we had. And to me...I will remember him as a friend, a confidante, a partner, and a brother.

Faizi Siddiqi was one of the kindest men I knew and I will miss him dearly.