

## Robotic Surgery Helps Man FIGHT TWO CANCERS

Jersey Shore University Medical Center

**P**oint Pleasant resident Clemence Redenski, 57, knows what it takes to defeat cancer — twice. Tumors in his prostate and kidney are now history, thanks to his doctors at the Center for Robotic Surgery at Jersey Shore University Medical Center.

“To cope with cancer, you have to have a strong will and believe you’re going to be all right, which I did,” Clemence says. He also had an expert surgeon: Jersey Shore urologist Mark Perlmutter, M.D., who removed both cancers using the da Vinci® surgical robot.

### A Blessing in Disguise

Clemence’s cancer journey began in July 2011. He sought care for a cough caused by allergies — but his blood tests revealed signs of prostate cancer. A physical examination and biopsy confirmed the diagnosis.

“I said, you’ve got to be kidding me. It’s cancer?” Clemence remembers. He was referred to Dr. Perlmutter, who recommended a robotic radical prostatectomy to completely remove the prostate.

“This surgery is one of the most complex operations we do in urology,” Dr. Perlmutter says. “Traditionally, it’s an involved operation with large amounts of blood loss — but not with the surgical robot.”

With the da Vinci system, Dr. Perlmutter sits at a console, manipulating robotic arms that hold tiny surgical instruments, including a three-dimensional camera, which allows him to see inside the patient without large incisions. Because the incisions are small, blood loss, scarring, and pain are reduced.

Clemence had surgery on December 21, 2011, and went home on the 24th, feeling well enough to attend Christmas Eve dinner with family and friends.



**Dr. Mark A. Perlmutter, M.D.**


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### A Second Scare

While most patients would have been glad to take it easy after this, Clemence had to gear up for a second challenge: Scans used to plan his prostate surgery revealed a suspicious mass on his kidney. Follow-up studies suggested kidney cancer. In April, Clemence, Dr. Perlmutter, and the robot were together in the operating room again.

“The robotic system makes it much easier to treat kidney cancer,” Dr. Perlmutter says. “We can remove only the diseased portion, rather than the entire kidney. Studies show this helps patients live longer.”

### Less Pain, Faster Recovery

 Robotic-assisted surgery is used at Jersey Shore to treat many gynecologic and urologic conditions. Learn about its benefits at [JerseyShoreUniversityMedicalCenter.com/robotics](http://JerseyShoreUniversityMedicalCenter.com/robotics).



**Clemence Redenski**

### The Right Place for Surgery

Today, Clemence’s cancers have not returned, and he’s grateful for the care he received at Jersey Shore. “Dr. Perlmutter and the rest of the team were caring and full of knowledge. They explained everything completely,” he says.

“This is a great place to have robotic surgery,” Dr. Perlmutter says. “We have the newest technologies, and we’re always trying to do things better for our patients.” ●