

June 30, 2026

Dear Friend,

After twenty-seven years of the most meaningful work I can imagine, I am writing to share that I will be retiring from my cardiology practice at Bay Area Heart Center, effective June 30, 2026. This letter is among the most difficult I have ever written — because it means saying farewell to the people who have been, in so many ways, the very heart of my professional life.

Over these many years, you have entrusted me with something extraordinarily precious: your health, your fears, your hopes, and the quiet moments of vulnerability that come with navigating serious illness. I have sat with you through uncertain diagnoses and celebrated with you through recoveries. I have watched children grow up, witnessed families navigate difficulty with grace, and had the immense privilege of walking alongside you through some of the most consequential chapters of your lives. It is not lost on me what an honor that is.

Cardiology drew me in because of its elegance—the heart is a remarkable, resilient organ—but it is the human beings who have kept me in this work with such devotion. Every consultation, every follow-up, every phone call navigated together have shaped who I am as a physician and as a person. You have taught me as much as I could ever have hoped to teach you.

Your continued care is my most important concern as I prepare for this transition. My colleagues at Bay Area Heart Center will ensure that your medical records are carefully maintained and that you are thoughtfully connected with a cardiologist who will carry your care forward with the same attention and commitment you deserve. Our office will be in touch with you directly regarding next steps, and please do not hesitate to call with any questions during this transition.

I leave this practice with a full heart—grateful beyond words for the trust you placed in me, and for the unforgettable community of patients who made every single day in this office worthwhile. Twenty-seven years of medicine is a long chapter, but I will carry the memory of your courage, your strength, and your kindness with me always.

Thank you—truly, for the privilege of being your physician.

With deep gratitude and wishes of good health,



Fernando Salazar
Cardiologist
Bay Area Heart Center