

This article is a personal testimony of my experiences with the Dallas VA hospital Low Vision Clinic. I have Stargardt's, a genetic disease that affects the macula. I first noticed a problem around 2012 and my vision has deteriorated over the years. I stopped driving in 2019 and was diagnosed as legally blind earlier this year. I was able to cope with my vision loss over the years because changes came gradually. I enlarged the fonts on my computer screen, used the magnifier on my smartphone, and used a portable magnifying device from my low vision optometrist. However, by about 6 months ago, I was having to use my iPhone to read my smartphone screen and I gave up reading long documents.

It is important to note that low vision problems do not have to be service connected for a veteran to be eligible for treatment by the VA. My condition is genetic and not service connected. Feel free to contact me, Dave Schafer, at 214-577-4107 or moaschafer@att.net if you have questions or would like additional information. You can also click on the following link to learn more about VA low vision services: [VA Blind And Low Vision Rehabilitation](#)