H. Dan Adams, MD

More than Just a Physician

H. Dan Adams, M.D. is a retired Cardiothoracic Surgeon and presently serves on the Evansville City Council At Large. He was first elected in 2007 and is currently running for re-election this November. Dr. Adams has been a member of the Vanderburgh County Medical Society since 1982.

1. Three words that describe you: **Driven, honest, empathetic.**

2. WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST CAR? **A VW DIRECTLY SHIPPED FROM GERMANY, ARRANGED BY MY COUSIN WHO WORKED THERE. COST $2300. DROVE IT INTO THE GROUND FOR A DECADE.**

3. Dream vacation: **St. Alphonse Island in the Seychelles. Went there ten years ago, great digs, superb French cooking and 60-80 bonefish a day on fly rod.**

4. WHAT IS THE LAST BOOK THAT YOU READ? **THE WAR THAT MADE AMERICA: A SHORT HISTORY OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR BY FRED ANDERSON.**

5. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE POSSESSION? **MY 90 LB. FEMALE GERMAN SHEPHERD, JILL. IF SHE COULD COOK, I'D MARRY HER.**

6. What do you like to be doing when you aren't treating patients? **Reading biography and military history, fly fishing all over, playing tennis with my gal, and making Evansville a better place to live.**

7. WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH TEN MILLION DOLLARS? **DO WHAT ONE SHOULD ALWAYS DO WITH A WINDFALL: SECRETLY SPEND 10% AND BANK THE OTHER 90%...THEN, QUIETLY FIND PEOPLE WHO MERIT ANONYMOUS HELP.**

8. What is your greatest accomplishment? **Starting four cardiac surgery programs from scratch,**

protecting the First Amendment at City Council, and preventing two fire stations from closure.

9. WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST REGRET? **NOT BEING MORE MATURE AND INSIGHTFUL ON MY MARRIAGE CHOICES.**

10. What advice would you give a physician just starting in practice? **Never stop studying your field, enjoy fully being with the people with whom you work, and truly care for ALL the facets of your patients' needs.**

11. WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU THE HAPPIEST? **1972, AFTER SIX YEARS OF WORKING > 100 HOURS A WEEK, THE US NAVY PUT ME ON AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER FOR TEN MONTHS ALL ALONG THE NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN COAST…AND PAID ME $16,000. I CAME HOME WITH A QUARTER…TANNED AND RESTED.**

12. Favorite food? **Italian, Spanish, French, ceviche, and lobsta roll.**

13. WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST PAYING JOB? **TWELVE-YEAR-OLD BALL BOY AT DAVIS CUP DOUBLES AT LONGWOOD IN BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS.**

14. What do you pretend not to want? **A Vote!**

15. WHAT IS YOUR MOST MARKED CHARACTERISTIC? **LIVES LIFE TO THE FULLEST.**

16. What do you most value in friends? **Honesty, laughter, and no pretension.**

17. SECRET VICE: **CHOCOLATE.**

18. Favorite musician: **Da Beatles.**

19. HOW DO YOU HOPE TO BE REMEMBERED? **NOT TOO IMPORTANT TO BE REMEMBERED, AS LIFE IS SO FLEETING.**

20. Favorite thing to do when no one is looking? **Play Hearts on my pc.**

21. BEHIND MY BACK, PEOPLE SAY… **WHO KNOWS?…WHO CARES?**

22. People would be surprised if they knew: **I sold Harvard Kewpie dolls twenty feet from unguarded JFK in 1962.**

23. BIGGEST FEAR? **NOT DYING, BUT RATHER DYING IN PAIN.**

24. If you had not become a physician, what would you have been? **A history/science high school teacher and a soccer/hockey/lacrosse coach.**

25. WHEN DID YOU FIRST REALIZE THAT YOU WERE AN ADULT? **WHEN A PATIENT DIED UNDER MY CARE.**

26. What was the number one reason you joined the Medical Society? **Because doctors often are very solitary people…and yet they need social contact like anyone else.**

27. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR EPITAPH TO BE? **VIDI, VENCI, VENI.**

Vanderburgh County Medical Society does not endorse any political candidates.