

Healthcare



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Michael Vasquez

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Worked here for: 10 years

Birthplace: Buffalo • **Residence:** East Amherst

College: B.A., Duke University; M.D., University at Buffalo

Spouse: Melissa

Children: Jessica, 20; Chase, 18; Olivea, 12; Isabela, 10

Awards and achievements: Business First Health Care Heroes Award for Innovation in Health Care 2004; Research publication May issue of the Journal of Vascular Surgery; awarded a nationally funded research-in-practice grant from the American College of Phlebology; principal investigator in an FDA approved Phase 3 Clinical Trial of a new varicose vein treatment.

Why entered profession: I was called to medicine at a young age. As I realized that I had a tremendous gift of healing through my hands, I pursued surgery. Clinical research and belief in following outcomes has allowed me to communicate an important message on an international scale.

Who influenced career: My surgeon father, Anibal Vasquez, has profoundly impact my professional life. His example of dedication, humility, tenderness and grace under pressure has left its permanent mark.

Recent accomplishment: Leading an international, inter-disciplinary working group of the American Venous Forum for the "Revised Venous Clinical Severity Score." This clinical outcomes tool will set the worldwide standard to follow in treatment of venous disease.

First job as adult: Phlebotomist (blood drawer) at Duke University Medical Center while in college.

Hobbies: Golf, skiing, chess, piano.

Would most like to meet: The Holy Mother Mary. As a person, she lived under the most extraordinary of circumstances. She was favored, but found a way to remain humble, determined, and accepting of her role. She is simple and real and easily overlooked. That inner strength to me is most compelling.