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I graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1974 with a degree in Biology. I originally joined Navy ROTC to complete college because I was in the last year of the Vietnam Draft and my draft number was 42, suggesting a high likelihood of being drafted into the armed services. I always wanted to be a physician and I accepted a scholarship to medical school funded by the Navy.

I attended the Medical University of South Carolina, graduating in 1978. During medical school I spent 1 summer at the Navy Experimental Diving Unit and research facility in Panama City, Florida. I served my internship in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Naval Hospital Portsmouth Virginia.

The Navy requires almost all physicians to serve as a general medical officer in the fleet before advanced residency training. I served as the Medical Officer of the USS Nassau, LHA-4. I had an interesting year functioning as a general practitioner about the Nassau. The Nassau was a brand new ship in 1979 and it had a complete hospital including operating rooms - which I had little training to use. The Nassau was also a helicopter carrier and amphibious assault ship. We had both an air wing and Marine troops about when we were operational. I developed confidence as an independent physician and confirmed my desire to become an obstetrician and gynecologist.

I then became a resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) in Bethesda, MD. One of my Chief Residents during my internship became a Reproductive Endocrinologist and my role model for a future career. Dr Bryan Cowan, now at the University of Mississippi and former Department Chairman, showed me how interesting and exciting it could be to deal with reproductive endocrinology and infertility.

Upon completing residency training, I served as an obstetrician-gynecologist at the Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan for two years. I learned only a few words and phrases of Japanese because I spent so much time delivering babies for the US military families. I also cemented my desire to become a reproductive endocrinologist after many nights awake delivering babies!

I returned to the Washington DC metro area to fellowship-training in Reproductive Endocrinology at Walter Reed Army Hospital (WRAMC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). I finished my training in 1987 and transferred to the National Naval Medical Center as the reproductive endocrinologist. The Navy rarely had more than 4 reproductive endocrinologists at any time and each of us served to train OB-Gyn residents. I served the remainder of my Naval career at the NNMC in Bethesda as Director of Reproductive Endocrinology.

During my time at NNMC, I also held an appointment as an Associate Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS). NNMC was one of the primary training hospitals for the medical students at USUHS. I also trained REI fellows from the fellowship that I attended at WRAMC/NIH. During these 7 years of my career, I was very involved in teaching, research and academics.

I retired from the Navy after 20 years service in 1994. I accepted a position at the Genetics & IVF Institute (GIVF) in Fairfax, VA. I worked there for 10 years and eventually became the infertility medical director. I learned IVF from my colleagues at GIVF because we were prohibited from performing IVF in the government while I was on active duty. GIVF provided me with a wealth of experience and learning. I was blessed to have had the opportunity and honor of working with such a great team of clinical/academic colleagues. Dr. Joseph Schulman built a fabulous center and team of physicians/scientists. My colleagues are still close associates: Dr Richard Sherins (male infertility), Drs. Susan Black, Harvey Stern and David Bick (genetics), and Drs. Keith Blauer, Steve Lincoln, and Sunita Kulsrustha (REI). I learned how to think more critically, look for new technologies and to change in new directions without waiting for the other 95% of physicians to make the change first.

I also developed the understanding of the symbiotic relationship between the IVF laboratory and the clinical REI. When I decided to make the move to my own practice, I knew that I needed a business model/relationship in which the physician and scientist were truly equals in order to produce the best possible outcomes for our patients. I have found that relationship with Klaus Wiemer, PhD, HCLD. Our collaboration is critical to outstanding outcomes.

I am board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility. I am a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, a member of the Pacific Coast Reproductive Society, American Society of Reproductive Medicine, the Society for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, and the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology. I authored or co-authored over 25 scientific papers. I continue to serve as an ad-hoc reviewer for the medical journals Fertility and Sterility and Obstetrics and Gynecology.