



David Gilbert

I was born and raised in eastern North Carolina, about an hour from the Outer Banks in Greenville, NC. I grew up watching my dad weld and learned how to be resourceful and use the tools I have at hand to get a job done. My mom imparted the importance of education on me, since no one else in my family had ever been to college and she had seen what a lack of education meant. I stayed in Greenville for undergraduate at East Carolina University, and eventually decided to remain for medical school. My time living in the county left me with an appreciation for quiet places off the beaten path, a trait I have never outgrown.

During medical school I was almost certain I was going to be an ER physician. I loved the variety, fast pace, and the ability to do procedures, to reach out and touch someone in a healing way. I eventually came to understand that I enjoyed the people and the idea of EM, not so much the reality. It was at that time that I decided to pursue a career in surgery. I had no interest in specializing, my personality won't let me, but general surgery seemed the perfect mix. This led my wife and I to move here to Louisville. I eventually came to understand that my life was taking a different direction, one that did not involve surgery, and I was blessed to eventually come to be a Family Medicine resident here in Louisville. This path is definitely true to my roots, as it was my family doctor that inspired me to actually pursue my early dreams of being a doctor. I still love doing procedures and one day hope to pass this along by working side by side with residents and students. My scholarly interests have similarly tended to the more concrete, and I have published research in functional recovery following traumatic brain injury in the rat model.

When not "on the clock," my interests are widely varied. Spending time with my wife, along with our German Shepherd, three cats, chinchilla, and two fish tanks, always comes first. Other than that, my biggest passion involves four wheels and a gas pedal. I love to drive. My wife and I are members of a local car club and I am a member of the Sports Car Club of America. I'm almost as happy

working on a car as I am driving one. Other than going, “zoom-zoom,” I also read – mostly fantasy and science fiction. Cooking has been a pastime since my time in undergrad and is still a stress-reliever. And you must have a tasty beverage to go along with your meal, so I have taken up home-brewing beer. Surrounding all of this though, are friends that are my family here. Without my fellow residents, and especially my car club family, I (and my wife) would likely be lost.

Although my wife and I love Louisville, we plan on eventually moving back to North Carolina to be closer to family. I only wish I could pack the city up with us and plop it down about two hours from home instead of 10. My wandering path to where I am today is pretty much an open book, so please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about choosing a path in life, the program here, or which back roads have the best twisty bits.