

BEHIND THE MASK

G. HUNT
NEUROHR, MD

A TSPS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

A look behind the surgeon to the experiences, passions, and purpose that shape his journey in medicine and in life.

Interview by Kevin Vargas, TSPS Volunteer
Baylor College of Medicine, Medical Student



Dr. Hunt Neurohr is an internationally acclaimed and highly respected dual-board-certified plastic surgeon who has maintained a solo practice in Dallas, Texas, for over 25 years. A past president of the Texas Society of Plastic Surgeons (TSPS), Dr. Neurohr earned his medical degree at UT Southwestern before completing his general surgery training at St. Paul Medical Center in Dallas. He finished his plastic surgery residency at the University of Southern California and a prestigious fellowship in facial aesthetic surgery under the legendary Dr. Bruce Connell. Operating a state-of-the-art, AAAASF-certified facility, Dr. Neurohr is deeply dedicated to his craft and his patients, personally handling every step of the surgical process, from the initial consultation to the final stitch.



DR. NEUROHR...AND HIS PROFESSIONAL PASSION

THE PATH TO PLASTIC SURGERY

KV: What initially drew you to plastic surgery over other surgical subspecialties?

Dr. Neurohr: Initially, I was interested in neurosurgery, but I realized my personality was not really suited for that. I got into burn research because it involved anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology. At Parkland in Dallas, I did research with Dr. Charles Baxter, and down the hall, Dr. Gordon Sasaki was doing microvascular replants. With my German heritage, the precision of microsurgery really struck a chord with me. Those initial experiences with burn reconstruction and microsurgery ultimately propelled me into plastic surgery.

“You have to find something you are passionate about, because that passion doesn’t go away.”



KV: Have your clinical interests shifted or evolved since you first started your practice?

Dr. Neurohr: Well, in a way. I followed Dr. Sasaki to USC for my residency, and during my first year, I inherited a cosmetic clinic. I realized I just had a knack for making people look better. I thought the most challenging area was with faces, and if I could make people look younger while achieving a natural result, then would be a really cool thing to do.

When I got into practice, I tried to get a microvascular team together in Dallas, but I soon found that plastic surgeons are pretty much an independent bunch. If you’re not working through a university, it’s like herding cats. So, I eventually abandoned that play and kept doing everything, including breast and body reconstruction, along with cosmetic cases, but my plan was always to do faces. I continued my quest for what I wanted to do until the practice became what I wanted it to be.



THE EARLY YEARS...
DR. G. HUNT NEUROHR, MD

“He gave me the confidence that I could trust my eye.”



THE POWER OF MENTORSHIP
AND COMMUNITY

KV: You did your fellowship with Dr. Bruce Connell. What do you think was the most profound lesson you learned from him?

Dr. Neurohr: He gave me the confidence that I could trust my eye. He taught me that I had sound artistic judgment in knowing what looks good, in knowing what to do, but also what not to do.



KV: For medical students or junior residents just starting their journey in this field, how important is it to find a mentor?

Dr. Neurohr: It made the world of difference to me. First of all, you have got to work hard and cover all your bases. But if you can have that inspiration, there are a couple of great benefits from having a top-level mentor. You learn great techniques that have been tried and true through experience, and you learn where the limits are. The other thing is that a top-level mentor will know all the other experts in that field around the world and can introduce you to people. It opens a lot of doors that advance you further than just trying to figure it out on your own.



DR. NEUROHR AND DR. BRUCE CONNELL



DR. NEUROHR, TSPS 2024 PRESIDENT, WITH TSPS LEADERS...PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE.

KV: How do you feel that TSPS has helped you grow your network, especially being a past president?

Dr. Neurohr: We have got such a great wealth of talent here in Texas. As you meet more people, you learn just how much variety there is, and you bounce ideas off one another. It is a very collegial group. Additionally, there is amazing scientific work being done across Houston, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, Temple, Fort Worth, and West Texas.

The Texas Society presents the top level of professionalism, and it is important for us to stick together, particularly younger surgeons, to continually hold our own. TSPS is a powerful advocacy group for all board-certified plastic surgeons in Texas.



KKV: Going back to your comment on "herding cats," what do you see as the biggest value of organized medical and state societies for young surgeons today?

Dr. Neurohr: I think it is really a three-tiered enterprise. One is the education. Two is the strength in numbers; we have political strength and advocacy to look out for one another. Third is the social portion, where you get to enjoy the different personalities and reunite with your friends and colleagues every year.



DR. NEUROHR REUNITING WITH TSPS FREINDS AND COLLEAGUES AT THE 2024 ANNUAL MEETING



“It's an honor to be part of a community of such talented, compassionate surgeons who are dedicated to excellence.”

LIFE OUTSIDE
THE OPERATING ROOM

KV: What personal interests or hobbies do you lean on to try to decompress outside of your day-to-day life?

Dr. Neurohr: Decompressing is very important; we are not machines. It is a physically demanding specialty, and it is important to stay in good shape, almost like a professional athlete. I walk my dog, do Pilates for core strength, lift weights in my home gym, and swim. Also, over this past year, I switched from playing right-handed to left-handed in golf, which has been the biggest challenge.

I also have a big family, and my greatest sense of pride is my beautiful wife, Stephanie, our children, and our growing number of grandkids. Having a spouse that understands the time and sacrifices you have to make for such a heavy schedule is a rare find; she is the best thing I could have possibly found on the planet.



DR. NEUROHR WITH WIFE STEPHANIE

KV: Switching from right- to left-handed in golf takes an incredible amount of patience and a willingness to be a beginner again. As a surgeon who has been practicing for decades, how do you maintain that willingness to step out of your comfort zone and learn a completely new technique?

Dr. Neurohr: It is a mindset. I think you always have to be learning; if people quit trying to learn new things or grow, they start to decline. Learning is a painful process, but when you get it, what a pleasure it is. George Gilder talks about the information theory of economics. You test new ideas, try them, and when you achieve that next level, you get a pleasurable dopamine hit that keeps pushing you further. You have got to keep growing.

You have to find something you are passionate about, because that passion doesn't go away. You might get knocked down without getting the results you want. It is a perfect golf analogy, but if you keep working at it and finding a way, you adjust and get better.

The other important thing is you can still hurt yourself along the way if you push yourself too far. Take care of your knees; as you get older, you have to preserve certain parts so you can grow without hurting yourself in other ways. We have a saying in our operating room: adapt or die.



FAMILY TIME WITH SOME OF THE NEUROHRS



KV: Is there anything that you feel anyone reading would be surprised to learn about you?

Dr. Neurohr: Yeah, I have been married for 45 years. I have eight children and six grandkids. All with the same wife, and that always surprises everybody!



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★ ABOUT DR. NEUROHR

Dr. Neurohr is a Board-Certified Plastic Surgeon practicing in Texas and served as the 2024 TSPS President and continues to be active in TSPS Leadership. He is committed to delivering exceptional patient care, advancing the specialty, and serving the TSPS community.

Learn more about Dr. Neurohr → www.drneurohr.com



DR. NEUROHR AND HIS OFFICE TEAM