

Napa Register Front Page of Business Section

10 Questions for Dr. Adrian D. Fenderson



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Each Wednesday the Napa Valley Register's Business Focus features "10 Questions" for a local entrepreneur. Readers are welcome to suggest businesspeople to be profiled.

Practicing for 35 years, Dr. Adrian Fenderson followed in the footsteps of his father, a dentist for many years in Bakersfield and later Morro Bay.

During the Vietnam War, Dr. Fenderson served as a dentist. Stationed at Tuy Hoa Air Base, he made weekend trips providing free dentistry to neighboring villagers.

"Flying with the Medivac helicopter pilots into these war-torn areas was very rewarding and adventurous," said Fenderson. That service motivated him to later join Los Medicos Voladores (the Flying Doctors). When he's not taking care of teeth in Napa, he travels to Mexico and Central America to provide dental care to those in need.

What three people would you most like to have dinner with (living or dead)?

Stephen Hawking, a scientist following in Einstein's footsteps.

Milton Friedman, the Nobel Memorial Prize winning economist who helped shape my political beliefs.

R. C. Sproul, a religious leader who helped my spiritual growth.

What job would you like to try/not like to try?

Archaeologist in Southeast Asia/Lobbyist for the cigarette industry.

What was your first job?

Farmworker on my grandfather's farm in Shafter.

What is your most treasured possession (besides your family)?

A scrapbook of letters and photos from my friends and extended family wishing me well on a special birthday; conceived, gathered and organized by my children.

What's on your to-do list?

To go on a one-month dental mission in Micronesia.

Who do you most admire in the business world?

Jim and Nancy Dornan, founders of Network TwentyOne, which helps people all over the world achieve financial independence.

Which three Web sites do you have bookmarked or visit regularly?

www.crowncouncil.com

www.flyingdocs.org

www.snopes.com

What's something people might be surprised to know about you?

I am much too prejudiced against prejudiced people.

What is your favorite charity?

Locally — Molly's Angels

Nationally — Smiles for Life

Internationally — World Vision

What other businessperson would you like to see featured in "10 Questions?"

Stewart Viets of Sagemark Consulting.

The 11th question for Dr. Adrian D. Fenderson

What's the newest innovation in dental care?

"The use of lasers and digital radiography (X-rays). Our laser is used in surgery and in sterilizing the pockets that are formed around your teeth by infected gums. Also, the use of teeth whiteners and hard all-porcelain crowns and filling material."

Fenderson says the No.1 piece of advice he gives his patients is regarding gum disease.

"Gum disease has been shown to contribute to heart problems. Choose a dentist and follow (his or her) regimen to keep your gums and the bone surrounding your teeth healthy," says Fenderson.