

22 QUESTIONS WITH... DR. CLARK CHILDRESS

Clark Childress, DDS, in his office. Herald-Citizen Photo/Ty Kernea:
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN, Sunday, 20 September 2009, pg. C-10.

Name: Clark Childress

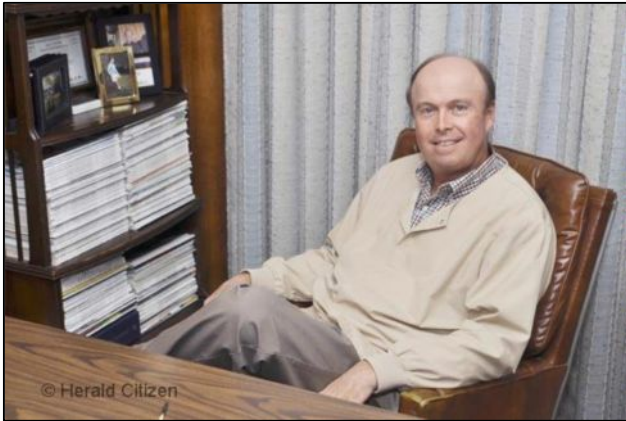
Hometown: Cookeville

Now living in: Cookeville

Family: Wife Colleen, three sons, two daughters-in-law and one 7-week-old granddaughter.

First job: Stockboy at West Side Drugs.

Current occupation (and since when): General dentist since 1980.



What I love about my job: Having the opportunity to show patients that dentistry doesn't have to be like the stereotype shown on television and the movies.

Part of my job I could do without: Having to deal with the business side of things. This is the one area not covered in a dental education that should be included.

What drew me to this occupation was: One of my close friends' fathers was a dentist (Dr. Phillip Webb), and I was intrigued by the way

dentistry blended health care, art and engineering into one profession.

Dream job: Head golf professional at Pebble Beach.

When I'm not working I'm: Usually playing golf, traveling, attending sporting events or reading.

I'm most proud of: The fact that my sons have grown to be responsible adults who are comfortable with who they are.

Something most people don't know about me: That I love to ride almost any kind of roller coaster.

Favorite movie: "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," "Field of Dreams" and any James Bond movie with Sean Connery.

Favorite food: My mother's fried chicken, strawberry shortcake and Houston's marinated steak.

My hero (and why): My parents, because they gave me guidelines for my years growing up, then demonstrated them by always using them themselves.

As a child, I thought I'd grow up to be: Most likely a lawyer; there were several in my family. I had a great aunt who was sure that's what I would be. I hope she wasn't too disappointed.

What I watch on TV: "Burn Notice," "House" and "The Closer."

Favorite childhood memory: The day after Christmas each year, we had a family dinner with aunts,

uncles, cousins, grandparents and many others. I think I looked forward to this as much as Christmas itself.

If I could do it all over again I'd: Have tried to be a little more outgoing and more eager to listen to what others had to say. Being an only child, I pretty much depended on myself.

I'd love to meet (living or dead): John Kennedy, Bobby Jones (the golfer) and O.K. Holladay (my great-grandfather)

Advice I'd pass on to future generations: We aren't all given the same abilities or opportunities in life, but that doesn't mean we don't deserve each other's respect, no matter what we do.

*See Denny files and Chapter 5 at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>