



In this issue, we had the pleasure to interview Dr. **Niten Singh**. Dr. Singh joined the department in 2013 and is a Professor and Associate Chief of Vascular Surgery.

Where was the last place you travelled?

I recently returned from what I call the "Fake DC" which is National Harbor, MD, for the Society for Vascular Surgery national meeting. Before that, the last place I traveled was to Lake Chelan for a relaxing weekend with the family. We go every year over Memorial Day weekend for about the past ten years. **SS:** What is your next trip? **NS:** A quick trip to Nashville to help my daughter move back into her dorm. This year we're moving her in as a junior and she needs someone to lug boxes up 10 floors because there are no elevators. I will hang out for a day and head back to recuperate!

Who is your favorite person to follow on social media?

I don't use Twitter often but I do follow Dr. Elina Quiroga—she is a Twitter master. We will be in a conference and the next thing you know, she's typing on her phone and it pops up on the UW Vascular Twitter feed, which I also follow. Dr. Quiroga just knows how to get the information and post it quickly.



Which movie can you watch over and over without ever getting tired of it?

Well, that's a real conundrum because my wife always tells me I am the only person she knows who can watch a movie over and over and act like it's the first time I've seen it, but I say any Will Ferrell movie. I can watch his movies over and over and laugh every time. With Will Ferrell you know what you're getting into and you're not going to be disappointed. My favorite movie of his is "Old School." Aside from Will Ferrell movies, I can always rewatch all of the Star Wars movies—from the prequels up to the Return of the Jedi. But comedies are my favorite genre. What we do can be very stressful and what we read

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can be heavy with a lot of data so it can be stress-relieving for me to just get away and watch a movie that makes me laugh.

Which TV show character would be the most fun to change places with for a week?

I'm from the generation that loves Seinfeld so I think it would be fun to be Jerry Seinfeld's character. There's something to be said for having hilarious characters like Kramer, George and Elaine come over, hang out and do absolutely nothing like they did in the series. It was a unique cast who had great chemistry and the show had amazing writers. Who wouldn't want to change places with these characters for a week?

Who is your favorite musician?

I have to say my favorite musician is Bono and U2 is my favorite band—I've seen them three times in concert. They have spanned four decades and continue to produce great music. Bono's voice is still strong and unique with a band that has a unique sound. I also really like Pearl Jam. They personify that 90s grunge sound and again, produce just great music. I saw them in the 90s then again last year at Safeco Field. It was a phenomenal experience seeing someone now who you saw in concert in the 90s and they are still amazing.

What job would you want if you were guaranteed to be successful?

My job—I love what I do! I enjoy the specialty of vascular surgery. Is there a guarantee to be successful every time in surgery? That would be unrealistic, but I enjoy what I do and cannot imagine doing anything else, anywhere else. UW Medicine is a great system.





What is the something we'd never guess about you?

I grew up in Alabama which to many on the west coast seems like a foreign country. The next question I always get is "where were you born," which is Utah and which leads to more discussion...

What is your most unusual talent?

I'm very good at impersonations. I could probably impersonate

anybody. **SS:** Give your favorite impersonation. **NS:** I have a lot of favorites, but... [channeling Jack Nicholson]: "We stand on the line. We're there every day. You use words like 'honor' and 'code' as a punchline at a party. We live it every day." **SS:** You nailed it!

What did you think you were going to be while growing up?

My grandfather was a policeman so I thought I was going to be in law enforcement. I looked up to him, he was a big, strong guy so that was formative to me as a kid. For a while I wanted to be an FBI agent. **SS:** When did you realize that wasn't going to be your route? **NS:** When I was in college in addition to other experiences in my life, but I always had an interest in medicine as well. Personally, I felt I could do more for people in medicine than I could in law enforcement. When I was in residency at Tripler Army Medical Center and I saw the vascular surgeons fixing aortic aneurysms, preventing ruptures, and saving legs I realized that was something I wanted to do. The mentorship by vascular surgeons throughout my residency training helped cement that decision.

What's the most unbelievable thing that's ever happened to you?

I was given a middle name when I joined the military. I put "n/a" in that field as I do not have a middle name and the military read it as Nia. All of my military documents have Nia as my middle name on them now.

Who's the most important role model or mentor you've had in your life?

My dad. As an immigrant to this country he believed that anyone can be successful by working hard and he made an indelible imprint in my life.

What is your fondest childhood memory?

Road trips with my family. **SS:** Where did you travel to? **NS:** Up and down the east coast in a Pontiac Catalina.

What do you wish you had placed in a time capsule 15 years ago?

A college picture of me with a mullet. **SS:** Do you have a photo of it that we could publish? **NS:** No

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Dr. Niten Singh**

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THIS OR THAT

- Rain or snow? **Rain**
- Libraries or museums? **Museums**
- Summer or winter? **Summer**
- Reading or writing? **Reading**
- Boat or plane? **Plane**
- Puzzles or board games? **Board games**
- Ketchup or mustard? **Mustard**
- Chocolate or vanilla? **Chocolate**
- Fruit or vegetables? **Fruit**
- iPhone or Android? **iPhone**
- Tablet or Computer? **Computer**
- Tea or coffee? **Coffee**
- Text or call? **Text**
- Sweet or savory? **Sweet**
- Cookies or cake? **Cookies**
- Cats or dogs? **Dogs**
- Movie or book? **Movie**
- Mountains or beach? **Mountains**
- Cardio or Weights? **Both**
- Big Party or Small Gathering? **Small Gathering**
- Facebook or Twitter? **Neither**
- Online Shopping or Shopping in a Store? **I hate shopping**
- Pancake or Waffle? **Waffle**
- Movie at Home or Movie at the Theater? **Both**
- At a movie: Candy or Popcorn? **Popcorn**
- Superman or Batman? **Batman**
- Wonder Woman or Captain Marvel? **Wonder Woman**
- City or Countryside? **City**
- Weird or crazy? **Crazy**
- Swim in a pool or in the sea? **Sea**
- Pasta or pizza? **Pizza**