

Dr. Deborah Manjoney

ENTREPRENEUR



Dr. Deborah Manjoney is an intellectual pioneer who is all heart.

Manjoney was a practicing cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon in the Milwaukee and Waukesha area for 10 years before opening Wisconsin Vein Center & MediSpa in Pewaukee in 2002.

Wisconsin Vein Center & MediSpa provides noninvasive and semi-invasive treatments for varicose veins, laser and skin-care services, and a variety of aesthetic procedures.

She is one of the first female surgeons to bring the “MediSpa” concept to the area, which offers medical-grade procedures and treatments in a day-spa atmosphere.

While some questioned her for leaving a high-powered career as a heart surgeon, Manjoney was intrigued by the newer treatments for venous diseases. She saw a consumer need for services and recognized that venous disease, then considered a cosmetic procedure by the primary care community, was a far more prescient condition.

“The pain related to varicose veins is real,” she said. “It is a legitimate, quality-of-life condition. I’m not saving lives now, like I once was, but what amazes me is how grateful my patients are. They are very grateful to get some relief from their discomfort, and that’s very rewarding.”

Her main motivation in making the career switch was a desire to spend more time with her family. Manjoney has two college-age children, Cole and Lauren, with husband, Dr. Scott Stanwyck, an orthopedic surgeon.

Juggling the demands of her career, with its long, erratic hours, and those of a young family was no small feat. In her years as a cardiovascular surgeon, she worked in operating rooms at St. Joseph’s hospital, St. Luke’s Medical Center, and Sinai Samaritan Medical Center in Milwaukee, and Waukesha Memorial and Oconomowoc Memorial in Waukesha County.

“I was spending a lot of time in the car. I realized that the people I loved the most, my family, were getting short shrift,” she said.

Determination is a word frequently used to describe her, but it is her people skills that have won the dedication of her staff and patients, said Catherine Schell, a nurse practitioner that went to work for her in 2002.

Manjoney’s leadership style is inclusive, and she believes in the best training and education money can buy for her staff, said Schell, who now lives in California.

“At that time, it was unheard of to walk away from a career as a cardiothoracic surgeon, but she had vision and she was very determined,” Schell said. “She really wanted to do something to help women.”

-Meg Ciccantelli

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BIO

Title: Owner, Wisconsin Vein Center & MediSpa

Age: Mid-50’s

Career Highlights: Milwaukee-area Cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon, 1992 to 2002; opened Wisconsin Vein Center & MediSpa

Education: M.D., University of Vermont Medical School; residency, Medical Center Hospital/University of Vermont; cardiothoracic residency, University of Chicago

Hometown: Bridgeport, Connecticut