

# A MODERN RENAISSANCE MAN

*J. Bert Davis isn't your typical doctor*

BY RENEE NOVELLE

**A**t first glance, Dr. J. Bert Davis and his wife Karen have the presence of rock stars. With his blond hair that hangs loosely just below his shoulders, and her striking poise from a previous ballet career, this power couple oozes cool confidence.

But as we sit down to chat in the well-appointed reception area of their office, I'm struck by a Southern drawl that's just as easy and down-to-earth as his friendly nature. Unlike many in his field, Davis projects humbleness when discussing his achievements, both inside the office and out of it. And though the two clearly enjoy making the most of their lives, there's no doubting the seriousness with which Davis approaches his profession.

Or that he *is* one of the most qualified individuals in the area of facial cosmetic surgery.

Google his experience and you'll quickly find that he's worked closely alongside names such as Richard Farnior and Alastair and Jean Carruthers—people who were pioneers in their fields; professionals who significantly shaped the way

things are done today. In fact, Davis was the first person in Florida to inject Botox for wrinkle treatment.

"I've been injecting Botox and fillers since 1992," he says, noting that it didn't gain popularity for cosmetic purposes until the early 2000s. "They were just kind of my baby. I knew a lot about them from the get-go."

And this from a man who almost didn't get accepted into medical school, but not because of his grades or abilities. It was his signature long hair that kept him out initially. After several interviews with the dean, he finally agreed to cut it, and he got his acceptance letter.

"I started letting it grow from that day forward," he says. "But I showed up with pierced ears. They were very horrified; they said I wouldn't finish."

Clearly, they were mistaken.

Since then, Davis has enjoyed a flourishing career that eventually led him to partner with Lifestyle Lift, in addition to running his own private practice, Island Facial Plastic & ENT.

Dr. J. Bert Davis and his wife, Karen, run Island Facial Plastic.





Dr. J. Bert Davis and his wife Karen, might not look like doctors, but they get the job done.

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Now, Davis gets to devote his time to those procedures he enjoys most, which include the mid face-lift he’s so well known for.

“I was so happy with my first results, I wanted to see if he would work on me again,” says patient Marguerite Kent, who’s particularly fond of the privacy and hospitality that the staff offers.

Part of delivering such satisfying results is achieved by setting realistic expectations from the beginning.

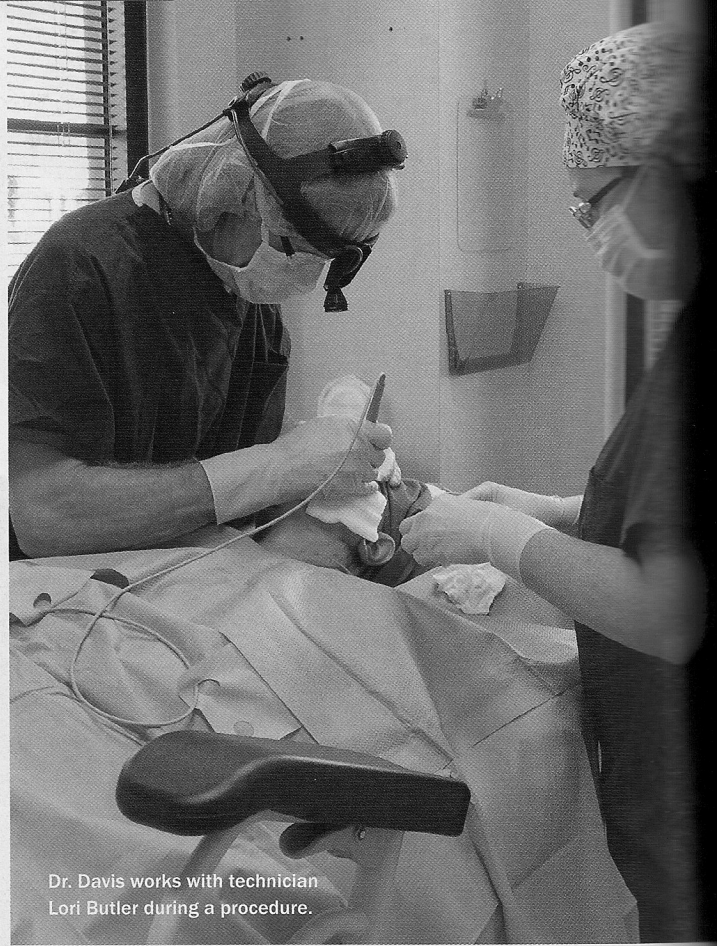
“It’s like I tell everyone, with a face-lift especially,” Davis says. “If you don’t like the way you look right now, and you don’t have any friends, and you’re not happy, when I’m done with

you, you’re not going to be happy, you’re not going to have any friends, and you’re still not going to like yourself.”

“It’s not magic. You’re just going to get a little better version of you,” Karen Davis adds, who up until recently worked very closely with the patients. “I think people appreciate his straightforwardness and honesty.”

The immense success of his office would indicate as much.

The couple is also busy in their lives outside the office by producing a series of short films that they’ve been touring at film festivals around the country.



Dr. Davis works with technician Lori Butler during a procedure.

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They got the idea after spending years at the renowned Sundance Film Festival and taking note on the “quality” of films—or lack thereof—that were presented.

“All of a sudden we started thinking, ‘Well, these are terrible! We can make terrible films,’” Davis laughs good-naturedly. “We

had about a four-week deadline, and we said ‘We can do it.’ And we wrote a terrible film.”

They write, produce, direct and even compose their own music for the films together.

The short films, which are a series that reflect their interpretation of the seven deadly sins, first premiered at the local Fort Myers Film Festival and have branched out from there according to where they like to vacation.

“We look to where we would like to visit, and then enter a short film there,” he says. Now they have a cult following that eagerly anticipates the next release.

And what about Sundance?

“I did talk to him (Robert Redford) a little bit this past year,” he says, “and I said we’re doing some films. But we’re not going to submit them until maybe we have the whole seven done because no one’s ever submitted a group of films as a piece of artwork.”

Until that time comes, Davis intends to spend his time doing what he likes best: making people beautiful, and enjoying every minute of his life.

“Live today like it’s your last,” he insists. “Don’t wait to be happy.”

That certainly sounds like quality advice. 🐾

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## FOR MORE INFO

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