

## Farewell to the Graduating Anesthesiology Residents

### Jean O'Banion

If someone had told me a few short years ago, that I would be changing careers, selling my practice, and moving my whole family to Ohio... I don't know if I would have believed them! But here we are, almost two years into my residency, and that is exactly what is happening. I could not be more grateful to everyone at the Ohio State University for the opportunities afforded to me since June 2012. Thank you to each and every one of you for believing in a very "non-traditional" candidate. I hope I have exceeded your expectations in every aspect!

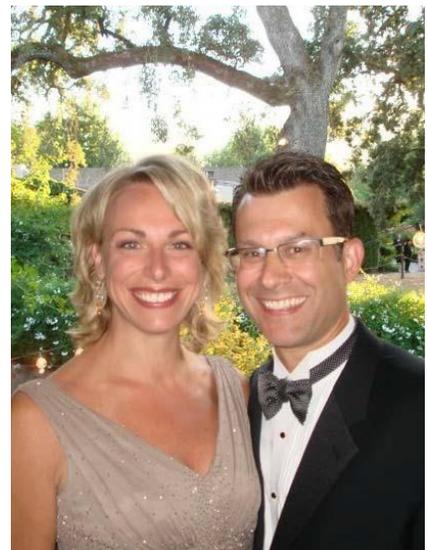
My co-residents in the Oral Surgery Department have become like my family. I have counted on you all so many times that I could never repay your many kindnesses. I hope you all know how much I have enjoyed our time together. Best wishes to all of you as you continue on with your studies, graduate, and become the incredible practitioners I know you will be!

To the faculty of the Oral Surgery and Anesthesia Departments: I have enjoyed (almost) every single minute of your guidance. Thank you all for sharing your vast knowledge and experience with me. I will continue to learn and hope to make you proud. I value your interest in my professional development and am so happy to call you my friends as well as my mentors.

Thank you to my wonderful children- Gracie, Ellie, and Joey: the three of you are amazing children. I would not have done this without your permission and support. I have worked hard every day to show you that learning does not stop when you get your first college degree, and that you can re-invent yourself, even when you turn 40. I hope I have set a good example for you.

Mark, my words cannot express how grateful I am to you, and how much I love you. You have carried me through some very difficult times, both emotionally and physically. Our bond is stronger than ever before. I am the luckiest woman in the world to have you. Thank you for allowing me to spread my wings, do the scary things, and trade in my velour track suits and mornings at Starbucks for some green scrubs, a lot of learning, and immense professional and personal satisfaction. You are amazing.

I tell my family every day... "I won the lottery of life!"



## Zachary Van Hilsen



Many might consider me a well-traveled man. I was raised in Arizona, played collegiate football in Missouri and Colorado, attended dental school in California, worked as a general dentist in both Texas and Oklahoma, and completed a pediatric residency in Minnesota. Of the places I have lived, trained and been mentored, I can say without hesitation that my experience at Ohio State has been the most remarkable. What percentage of dentists in the country can say they have had the opportunity to push lifesaving medications into their patients IV in the hallway while running their hospital bed from the operating room to the ICU? How many of my pediatric colleagues can say they had the responsibility of resuscitating a patient in the CT scanner at 3am? This program has a long history of providing quality training and I am grateful to be a part of its rich tradition. Personal thanks are in order for my chief residents and all the surgery and anesthesia attendings in our department for fostering an excellent learning environment, especially Dr. Prior who has been my research mentor and daily partner for all debatable topics on anesthesia (including how heavy my thumb is and how quickly a patient should wake up).

Because my anesthesia residency began one day following the completion of my pediatric dental residency, you can imagine how eagerly I am anticipating saying farewell to my life as a resident. As for the future, I am currently interviewing for both academic and private practice positions at Ohio State, Yale, LSU, and in Denver, Phoenix, and Dallas.

Last and most important, I would like to thank my fiancé and significantly better half of the past 9 years, Alex, for always being supportive of my education and career no matter where it has taken me. Alex is my rock and it is only through her love, support, understanding, and compassion that we have been able to accomplish so much.