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Dr. Jeff Osborne
 photo by Chris Fritchie



Man About Town

By Penny Martin

HOW DOES A BOY raised in a small town in east Texas become so diverse as to be a practicing dentist and a popular restaurant owner? The answer might be found in his family tree. Having discovered his family ancestry includes “Doc” Holliday; it has become a family joke of sorts. “As with Doc, I guess the dentistry was in my genes. I just hope the gambling and gun slinging never shows up in there as well,” says Dr. Jeffrey Osborne with a laugh.

A seventh generation Texan, Dr. Osborne was born in Carthage, near the Louisiana border. “My father is a physician and all through school I really thought that was where I was headed,” Dr. Osborne explains. “I knew in my heart dentistry was what I wanted to do, so in my third

year I changed degrees. I have absolutely no regrets. I love what I do.”

After graduating from dental school, Dr. Osborne remained in Houston opening multiple practices in the greater Houston area. At the same time, he served as a Dental Director for Cigna Healthcare and eventually the Texas Dental Director for United Concordia Companies (UCCI). UCCI asked him to relocate to their Dallas administrative offices, so in 1999 he moved to Plano.

Dr. Osborne also oversaw the Texas Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) contract for the state of Texas. He remembers, “This program at one point had over 500,000 children enrolled. I was still practicing and burning up the highway as needed, back and forth to Houston.”

Eventually he made the decision to leave UCCI and in 2005 he opened Legacy Ranch Dental in Frisco and began selling off his practices in Houston.

What makes his story even more unique is that while all this was going on, Dr. Osborne found time to pursue other interests in a limited partnership with Martini Ranch and 2826, Inc. Restaurant/Bars in Dallas and Houston. His interest in restaurants continues, and today Dr. Osborne owns Kotta Sushi Lounge, located in the Shops at Starwood in Frisco. *DMagazine* recently named Kotta Sushi Lounge Best place to eat in Frisco for the article *Cool Spots In The Burbs*. “I’m very fortunate to have a great team. From my executive chef to my busser, they’re the best at what they do.”

In addition to being a dentist and restaurateur, Dr. Osborne is the proud father of eleven-year-old Shelby. “Right now Shelby loves animals and talks about becoming a vet,” he boasts. “As a student at Legacy Christian Academy, science is one of her better subjects. I’m so thankful for such a great school in the area. The public schools here are great, but I wanted a Christian environment for my daughter’s educational experience. She loves going to school there and I’m excited about their growth and contribute to their needs whenever possible.”

When asked whether he considers himself a restaurateur who happens to be a dentist, or a dentist who happens to own a restaurant, Dr. Osborne replies, “Legacy Ranch Dental uses the highest technology possible and that invigorates my love of this profession. I just happen to also own a great restaurant. I wake up every day to new challenges. No matter which venture, I’m surrounded by great people and that’s what makes it all worthwhile. Whether it’s my staff, patients or patrons, they all make my life wonderful and exciting.”

Penny Martin is a freelance writer living in Little Elm.