DOCTOR PROFILE: Dr. William Evans

In deciding to become a doctor, William Evans III, MD, MS, was following in the footsteps of his father, an orthopedic surgeon.

“I was attracted to the degree of appreciation his patients had for him, and for what he was doing,” Evans said.

The son chose gastroenterology as his specialty “because of the different organs in the gastrointestinal tract,” he said. “There’s a lot to being able to treat the different organ systems. There are a large variety of diseases that need medical attention.”

The Florida native went to undergraduate school at Tulane University in New Orleans, then attended medical school at the Saint George’s University School of Medicine on the Island of Grenada in the Caribbean. He completed an internal medicine internship and residency at U of L, a gastroenterology fellowship at U of L, and a therapeutic endoscopy fellowship at the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville. He earned a master’s degree in science from U of L.

Dr. Evans’ academic appointments include clinical lecturer at the University of Florida College of Medicine and chief fellow, division of gastroenterology and hepatology, U of L. He has co-authored a number of scientific papers and has given presentations. Today he works at .Midwest Gastroenterology Associates at 225 Abraham Flexner Way in Louisville.

Endoscopy is not just used to diagnose illness, the gastroenterologist said. It can also be used as therapy.

“I concentrate on advanced endoscopy. I’m able to treat GI-related cancers and diseases of the pancreas and liver.”

In addition, “if a patient has inoperable colon, pancreas, stomach or esophageal cancer, we’re often able to treat those patient with a stent to prevent blockage of the GI tract,” he said.

It’s vital to build relationships with patients, the physician said.

“Medicine has changed,” he said. “Years ago the doctor said, ‘You do this!’ and there were no questions asked. Today I build a team approach between myself and patients. I lay out the different treatment options, and guide my patients to the best choices.”

In order to do this, “I’m a strong believer in patient education,” the gastroenterologist said. “I help my patients by giving them a lot of education. When they have knowledge – that’s one very important way to empower them.”

Part of the doctor-patient relationship involves being a good listener as well, Dr. Evans said.

“We work together to come up with the best solutions. Everybody’s different. Every individual needs specialized treatment. I get a great deal out of building relationships with my patients and seeing them get better over time.”
Although he was born in Florida, Dr. Evans’ mother lived in Louisville for a time. His parents were married in Louisville. And they both enjoyed coming back for the Kentucky Derby. So it seems natural for Evans III to live in Louisville.

Dr. Evans is married to Joilynn Marie Evans, MD. The couple has three youngsters: one 6, one 4, and one 2.

“The only hobby I have now is playing golf,” the gastroenterologist said. “That's because my six-year-old son is into playing golf.”

To make an appointment with Dr. Evans, call 502.568.6616.