

# V.I.P. of the week



Photo by RickSanchezPhotography.com

**Name:** Richard J. Pape  
**Birthday:** Oct. 11  
**Marital Status:** Married with two children  
**Birthplace:** Evergreen Park  
**Occupation:** Family, Cosmetic, and General Dentist (1982-present)  
**Favorite Thing about Orland Park:** I think it's the people. They are down to earth, friendly and share a commitment to family values and to their community.  
**If you could change one thing about Orland Park, what would you change:** The Traffic!! We moved here in 1987 and it's amazing how more congested it has gotten. I know all of us want to find a better solution to improve our quality of life.  
**Favorite place to travel/visit and why:** We recently went on a cruise in the Mediterranean. We started in Spain, and then went to France, Italy, Greece, and Croatia. What a beautiful part of the world! I'd love to go back and spend more time in each country.

**Favorite food and why:** I'm a pretty basic eater. No question—I love a great steak dinner but I also enjoy lighter fare like salads, soups and pasta.

**Favorite book and why:** I have a variety of interests. I enjoy reading everything from a John Grisham novel to historic books to professional and technical journals. It's really impossible to name just one book as a favorite as I read so many different types of books and enjoy them all.

**Favorite Song and why:** "Gimmie Shelter" by The Rolling Stones. I've seen them countless number of times. I think the older they get (and I get) the more I enjoy them.

**Favorite movie and why:** "The Godfather." It may be because I'm half Italian. It's more than just a movie about mafia; it's about values and family dynamics. There are a few movies that I will watch more than once but this one I will.

**Favorite saying/quote and why:** "Even if you've on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there," by Will Rogers. It's about not being complacent and moving forward.

**Best Childhood memory:** I grew up in the Roseland area of the city. I remember playing every sport with my friends (many times in the alleys) and enjoying what seemed to be endless summers. My worst memory by the way was when the Cubs blew it in 1969. I still haven't gotten over it.

**If you were stranded on a desert island, three things you couldn't live without would be:** My wonderful wife and two terrific daughters. I'm not sure if that counts as one or three. I wouldn't mind taking my golf clubs and TiVo if I had room.

**If you could meet one person dead or alive, who would it be and why:** Leonardo DaVinci. His accomplishments as both an artist and scientist continue to amaze me.

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years:** I see myself still practicing dentistry because I love what I do. I can see myself traveling more, and more time for golf.

**What is one thing people would be surprised to find out about you:** I really love music! Especially good old fashioned rock and roll. I still go to as many concerts as I can.

**In three words, how would your family/friends describe you:** Focused, passionate and witty.

*Dr. Richard J. Pape operates a private dental practice at 9443 W. 144th Place in Orland Park. He has earned the Academy of General Dentistry Fellowship by completing 500 hours of continuing dental education, passing an exam, and fulfilling three years of continuing membership. This AGD Award is granted to dentists who provide the highest quality of dental care by remaining current in their profession and symbolizes excellence in the dental profession. Dr. Pape is listed in the "Best Dentists in America" publication. In his continuing education Dr. Pape has completed courses in Aesthetic Pac-Live Continuum, L.D. Pankey Institute and Rosenthal Esthetic Continuum. He is a member of the American Dental Association, American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and Illinois State Dental Society. He is also a Fellow of the International Congress of Oral Implantologist.*

*To nominate someone for V.I.P. of the Week, contact Heather at (708) 326-9170 ext. 16.*