

## Dr. Alexander Marmureanu: King of Hearts

Born in the early 1960s, Dr. Alexander Marmureanu grew up under the harsh regime of communist Romania. Despite these challenging circumstances, he was captivated by Western culture from a young age and even devised a daring plan to windsurf across the sea in search of freedom. His parents thwarted this risky escape, but it did not deter his ambitions.

Growing up in a small town near the Carpathian Alps, Dr. Marmureanu developed many passions. From a young age, he would climb the snowy peaks behind his house with makeshift gear and then ski down. An athlete at heart, he pursued a variety of sports, including skiing, tennis, wind surfing and car racing. While excelling in medical school, he was also a professional tennis player, skier and race car driver.

After high school, Dr. Marmureanu joined the Romanian Special Forces, becoming a Green Beret and leading numerous Mountain and Sea Rescue operations.

The late 1980s brought a revolution that opened new opportunities for Romanians. Dr. Marmureanu immigrated to New York where he continued his education and built a flourishing medical career. His passion for medical research, teaching, and philanthropy helped him accomplish the Western dream he had always envisioned.

We are delighted to feature Dr. Alexander Marmureanu as our cover author. Here is more of his story, in his own words:

My father said if I couldn't be a king, I should become a doctor. Since becoming a king wasn't an option, I chose to become a heart surgeon. My father served as both my role model and mentor, imparting invaluable wisdom that has profoundly shaped my approach to patient care and my professional journey.

Growing up in Baile Govora, a small resort town in Romania, I was deeply influenced by my parents, both of whom were physicians. My father, a radiologist, and my mother, an internal medicine doctor, provided me with early exposure to the

hospital environment and the daily life of medical doctors. Experiences in the medical world ignited my passion for medicine from a young age, and I decided early on to follow in my parents' footsteps. Their guidance emphasized the significance of service, compassion, and the transformative impact of making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. These enduring values formed the cornerstone of my commitment to excellence in medicine and continue to guide me as I strive to provide compassionate and impactful care for my patients.



My interest in cardiothoracic surgery developed from a profound admiration for the heart and lungs, organs that are vital to life. I was drawn to the significant impact of cardiothoracic surgery and the opportunity to make life-saving interventions for the most critically ill patients. The blend of technical expertise, continuous learning, and the chance to perform intricate and impactful procedures cemented my commitment to this specialty.

I completed my general surgery training at New York University and Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. Upon graduating in 2000, I accepted a position as a cardiothoracic surgery fellow at UCLA Medical Center, where I later served as Faculty.

Moving to the West Coast was a pivotal decision that has been immensely rewarding. Los Angeles has provided a dynamic and diverse environment where my cardiothoracic and vascular practice has thrived. Currently, I maintain a very busy private practice, performing over 300 procedures annually. The professional opportunities and the ability to make a significant impact on the community have made this move both fulfilling and successful.

As the Chief of Staff at Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center and the Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery at two major hospitals in Los Angeles County, I am deeply involved in my community. My engagement includes leading outreach programs focused on prevention and treatment, and ensuring that quality healthcare is accessible to all. Additionally, I often travel internationally to train other surgeons and perform pro-bono surgeries for patients in need, extending my commitment to community service on a global scale.



Alexander Marmureanu and Laura Huettner; Los Angeles, California; March 2024

Alexander Marmureanu, Nick Marmureanu and Alexandra Marmureanu; Graduation Ceremony; United States Naval Academy; Annapolis, Maryland; May 2016





Alexander Marmureanu; Button Willow Raceway; Bakersfield, California; March 2022



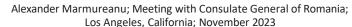
Alexander Marmureanu; Corsica, France; July 2023



Alexander Marmureanu; Helicopter Skiing; Valdez Heli Ski Guides; Valdez, Alaska; March 2022

Being a cardiovascular surgeon is incredibly rewarding, though it comes with significant challenges. What inspires me daily is the opportunity to profoundly impact my patients' lives, helping them overcome serious health issues and improve their overall quality of life. The complexity and precision required in cardiovascular surgery keep me engaged and constantly learning, while the resilience and gratitude of my patients motivate me to strive for excellence in every procedure. The combination of technical skill, innovative advancements, and the chance to save lives fuels my passion for cardiothoracic surgery.

The defining characteristics that have led to my success as a thoracic and cardio-vascular surgeon are a strong work ethic and resilience. The demanding nature of this specialty requires unwavering dedication and the ability to persevere through challenging and complex situations. My commitment to continuous learning, precision in my work, and the ability to remain calm under pressure have been crucial. These qualities, combined with a passion for patient care and a drive to make a positive impact, have been instrumental in my journey and accomplishments in this field.







Laura Huettner, Alexander Marmureanu and Alexandra Marmureanu; Romanian National Day Banquet; Peninsula Hotel; Los Angeles, California; November 2023

I find immense satisfaction in the opportunity to help those in need. My dedication to evidence-based, patient-centered care remains unwavering, and I am committed to upholding the highest standards of excellence in my practice.

Looking ahead, I am continually exploring avenues for career advancement and innovative approaches to treatment. While exciting developments may be on the horizon, my primary focus remains on providing compassionate and effective care to every patient who entrusts their health to me.

## Works cited and referenced

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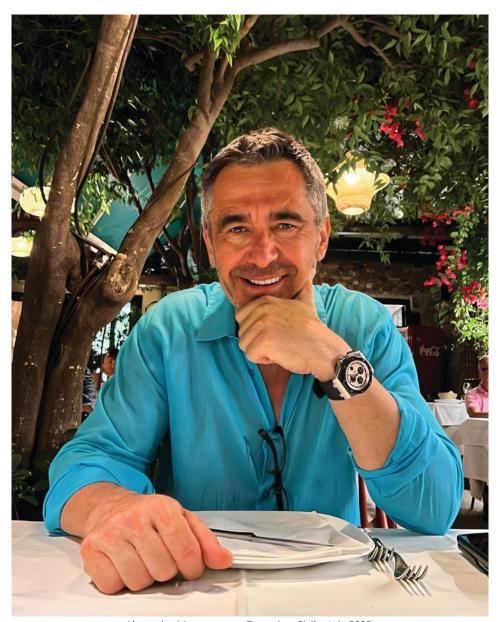
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Patrick Dempsey and Alexander Marmureanu; Porsche Rennsport Reunion 7; Laguna Seca Raceway, Monterey; California; September 2023



Alexander Marmureanu; Taormina, Sicily; July 2023

Dr. Alexander R. Marmureanu is a cardiothoracic surgeon and the founding physician and CEO of the CA Heart & Lung Surgery Medical Center in LA. He has pioneered several minimally invasive surgical techniques, achieving high success rates in treating complex cardiovascular and pulmonary conditions. He is an esteemed member of several renowned organizations, boards, and committees, recognized both nationally and internationally. Dr. Marmureanu has been an invited speaker and visiting professor worldwide, and has authored numerous research publications and clinical papers.

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