



Dr. Frank Vice is like most veterinarians because he always knew he wanted to be a vet. Dr. Vice is also a little different than the average veterinarian because he's also a licensed pharmacist. He grew up in rural Fleming County on a dairy farm and as a young boy he states that he was always inquisitive and wondered: "What makes that cow do what it does" or "What makes that cow tick?" His father was supportive of young Frank's dreams and often told him that "milking the cows is my job, and your job is education."

Planning to pursue his dreams of becoming a veterinarian Dr. Vice enrolled in Morehead State University and later graduated with a major in Agriculture and minors in Biology and Chemistry. However, life has a way of changing things and Dr. Vice had decided to apply to Pharmacy School at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He was accepted, graduated and started working as a pharmacist.

His original dream of becoming a veterinarian began to surface once again so Dr. Vice decided to apply to veterinary school. He applied to Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine. He was accepted and began pursuing his dream. Frank says he loved going to veterinary school, stating: "it was a privilege and a joy" and "I was lucky beyond lucky." Dr. Vice worked at the famous Toomers Drug Store all through Veterinary School. He feels he was fortunate to have his degree as a pharmacist to support him while in veterinary school.

After graduating from Auburn it was never a question that he would return home to Fleming County to work at the local veterinary clinic. He worked alongside Dr. Emory Clark and Dr. ET Harding who he credits with shaping him into the doctor he is today. Frank says that he loves working in the same community he grew up in. It fulfills him to be able to meet the needs of the people in his hometown. His love of community service is seen in his daily life where he works 2 days a week at Lewis County Primary Plus as a pharmacist and 3 and 1/2 days a week at Fleming County Animal Hospital. He also teaches Sunday school on Sunday mornings.

When asked if he had the opportunity would he choose veterinary medicine again he responded "Absolutely, it's like getting to play ball every day!" He says that while vet med has changed quite a bit since he started practicing, he feels it is all in good ways. Stating that "a colic will always be a colic, and a choke will always be a choke" but that the advancements in vet med allow him so many more opportunities to offer his clients and patients. Thirty years ago offering referral to a veterinary specialist was a rare occasion and euthanasia may have been the best option. There are so many advancements in the profession Dr. Vice is able to be part of saving more lives than ever before.

Though Veterinary Medicine has changed quite a bit in the last 30 years, one thing that hasn't changed is Dr. Vice's passion to serve others. Whether at the drugstore or vet clinic, he continues to serve the community he grew up in. He is also part owner of a local funeral home, where he can be seen doing anything that needs to be done: "driving the car, escorting the family in and out, or grabbing them a coke". As long as the family's needs are being met, Frank feels he has made an impact for them.

Dr. Vice says he is proud to be a part of such a wonderful profession, and to share his journey with such amazing and talented colleagues. Frank is an amazing asset to the veterinary community and his own little piece of the world in Fleming County. Thank you for all of your contributions and dedication that continue to make veterinary medicine great. Check out the Fleming County Animal Hospital [HERE](#).

Presented by the KVMA Public Relations Committee