

**DR. SPENCER TASKER****YEARS IN PRACTICE:** 21**YEARS IN ABQ:** 21

**Where did you grow up?** I am an Air Force Brat! I was born in Tacoma, Washington but also lived in Colorado, Utah, Guam, and Oklahoma.

**What meal transports you immediately back to your childhood?** Wontons with sweet and sour sauce and sushi. My grandfather was a cook in an Asian restaurant, and my mother cooked a lot of his recipes.

**What was your first phone?** My first cell phone was in 1998 when I was a junior in college. I think it was an Ericsson?

**What is your favorite sweet treat—now and as a kid?** Can't go wrong with some ice cream or gelato! My dad and I would have cookies and cream or cookie dough ice cream and watch Star Trek most nights. These days I love it when I can get to FROST!

**What did you want to be when you grew up and why?** I wanted to be a sports anchor for ESPN. My high school in Oklahoma had a news station, and I was the sportscaster my junior year.

**When did you know that you wanted to become a dentist? Did anyone in particular inspire you?** My dad had braces when he was 40 years old; I was 10. I would go with him to his appointments, and I thought it was the coolest thing.

**Describe yourself as a child in three words.** Industrious, curious, short.

**What can you remember (really, really) wanting for Christmas?** The Millennium Falcon and Optimus Prime.

**What is your most interesting Halloween costume from childhood (or even now)?** I was a scuba diver on a very cold night in Colorado. These days, any excuse to dress up as Han Solo makes my day.

**What was your first car?** A big 1986 Dodge Ram van. It was the family car and earned the nickname "Big Blue." It even appeared on the front page of our yearbook my senior year.

**What was your most memorable family vacation or trip and why?** My dad was a pilot for United Airlines. I got to tag along with him to many exotic places, and we would stay for 48 hours. Australia, New Zealand, China, Singapore, and Malaysia were my most memorable places.

**Growing up, what TV shows/movies were your all-time favorites?** The orig-



inal Star Wars trilogy. Also I would race home from school to watch Scooby Doo and Transformer cartoons.

**If you could meet and talk to your younger self, what advice would you give them?** You're not going to be tall or quick enough for the NBA—and appreciate those around you that help you achieve your goals. Oh, and buy Bitcoin!

**What is the absolute best part of your job?** 2 things. Working with a great team—most of my staff members have been with me between 10 and 17 years! I am a pediatric dentist, so working with kids is fun! They help me stay young, and I love the conversations I get to have with them.

**ABQ PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**  
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Jung Lee

