

# Asa Dan Morton, Class of 1975

## Science/Medicine/Philanthropy

Dr. Asa Dan Morton embodies the Point Loma High School spirit of service to others.

After graduating from UCSD, Dr. Morton became an F-14 Tomcat pilot in the U.S. Navy. He then enrolled in the Uniformed Services Medical School in Bethesda, MD. Following graduation, he completed several other programs, including his internship/residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego and then a fellowship program at the University of Michigan.

While still in medical school, Dr. Morton began his lengthy involvement in humanitarian service by doing Hepatitis B vaccine research in Pakistan. Later, encouraged by a mentor at University of Michigan, he went on a medical and surgical mission to Guatemala with Helps International.

Now, 21 years later, Dr. Morton is still fully engaged in surgical missions in such diverse countries as Guatemala, Pakistan, Brazil, Mexico and India. He has performed over 1,500 pro bono surgeries worldwide and provided medical care to over 20,000 patients during missions who would otherwise go untreated. Working with medical and nursing students to provide transforming and life-changing experiences is one of his favorite aspects. He is now the director of Vision Restoration and Facial Reconstruction for Helps International, a group that includes

virtually every medical specialty and dentistry. Dr. Morton also participates in the Fresh Start Surgical Gifts program locally, providing surgeries at no cost to patients from around the globe (Ethiopia, China, Romania and Ecuador) at Rady Childrens Hospital.

Dr. Morton's honors and awards are many. They include the American Academy of Ophthalmology Life Service Award; Physician's Recognition Award from the American Medical Association; Meritorious Service Medal from the U.S. Dept. of Defense; Lifelong Education Award from Ophthalmologist Continuing Education Recognition; Paul Kayser International Scholar Award from the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology and the Surgeon General Award for Academic Excellence, Military Medical Professionalism and Leadership Skills.

His career as a military surgeon covered 18 years of service to his country.

A graduate of the sailing program at the San Diego Yacht Club, Dr. Morton remains an active sailor. He is married to Kiki Flores Morton, and they have three sons: Christopher, Joseph and Matthew.

Dr. Morton has been in private practice in San Diego since 2003. His mother, father and stepfather are all graduates of Point Loma High School.