

What was your last impulse buy?

I don't like shopping <laughs>, so I'm trying to think. I, against my wife's advice and better judgement, bought two iPads for my children. They're always fighting over the iPads and I said, "Hey, you know what? I've got to get you each your own iPad." I think kids are learning a lot differently than how I did growing up. iPads have pencils that they can use to do all this homework—there's all these educational applications. I'd say that's my last impulse buy. I try not to spend money on material things per se, but spend money on experiences that are lifelong and priceless, like travelling. I do like to travel and experience different places and learn about new people and new cultures. I want my children to have the travel bug. See and experience new things that will help shape them to be good citizens of the world.

What is your most memorable vacation?

I would say one of the most memorable vacations was before we had kids. We hiked the trails of Machu Picchu. We booked this trip through this company called Mountain Lodges of Peru. My wife was like, "Oh, it's an easy hike. You don't have to worry about anything. You just show up and enjoy." I did enjoy it, but it wasn't easy hike. I was always in the back and I think they had to deploy a guide just for me. I was totally out of shape and not prepared. It was amazing to hike every day through Peru and see, as you go from one place to the next, the change in the terrain, the change in the food, the change in the local culture. It's like even within the country, there's these different cultures.

And then to end that at Machu Picchu. How did they create this majestic city in the clouds? <laughs> It was just out of nowhere—the clouds parted and you see this amazing city. That was a pretty amazing trip. I've got to do it again, but this time I'm going to be prepared.



Dr. Dick and family on another memorable vacation at the National Elk Refuge in Jackson Hole, WY

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

CLAIRE BUCHANAN, MD

PROFESSOR

DIVISION OF
GENERAL SURGERY



In April Dr. [Claire Buchanan](#) joined the breast team at UW Medical Center - Northwest and Seattle Care Cancer Alliance. Dr. Buchanan has lived in the Seattle area since 2005, and worked at the True Family Women's Cancer Center at the Swedish Cancer Institute before joining UW. After completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago, she stayed for her medical degree at the University's Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Buchanan completed her general surgery residency at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and during this time she developed an interest in caring for breast cancer patients, and enjoyed the collaborative and multidisciplinary nature of the speciality. Encouraged by her teachers in residency, she spent a year at the University of Southern California doing clinical research with Dr. Melvin Silverstein, an expert in ductal carcinoma in situ. An amazing mentor and surgeon, Dr. Silverstein guided Dr. Buchanan to seek breast surgery fellowship training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Dr. Buchanan is excited to return to academics and thrives on relationships with her patients, staff and colleagues. Her clinical interests include nipple sparing mastectomies, oncoplastic approaches, and aesthetic flat closure for women who choose not to have reconstruction after mastectomy. Outside of work, she enjoys West Coast Swing/Lindy Hop dancing, baking pies for friends and family and watching action movies with her sons.