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Article Review

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Michael Ellis DeBakey: Reformer of Cardiovascular Surgery

Luis H. Toledo-Pereyra, et al. "Michael E. Debakey: Reformer Of Cardiovascular Surgery." *Journal Of Investigative Surgery* 22.4 (2009): 234-238. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 30 Apr. 2012.

In March 15th, 2008, Dr. Michael DeBakey was the creator of the artificial heart, also known as the ventricular assist advice (VAD) (Luis). This creation has been a first for the cardiovascular surgery and will change people’s life forever. He was given the floor at Baylor College of Medicine in Waco, TX, to help people understand where he came from and how he did his research. He is a undisputed pioneer of the century and even history because of his cardiac surgery advancements. His creation deals with artificial blood vessels that will revolutionize heart surgery forever.

Michael DeBakey’s parents were first-generation immigrants from Lebanon and moved to the United States (Luis). They eventually settled in Lake Charles, LA where DeBakey was born and raised. He was born on September 7, 1908, and as a child he was very bright and intelligent. He spent a lot of time in the library reading. By the time he reached high school he had already read the entire Encyclopedia Britannica. He might have reached reading six hundred books by the time he was seventeen. After high school he attended Tulane University, he earned his bachelor’s and master’s degree in medicine. He then became a surgeon (Luis).

When he was forty years old he returned to his medical career from the military where he served in World War II (Luis). He was considered to be the most promising new surgeons of this period and was offered my job offers. After he turned down three jobs in New York City he later was the Chairman of the Department of Surgery in Houston at Baylor University College of Medicine. He studied about pumps dating back two thousand years ago and then he used that information to manufacture his first heart pump prototype, which became real only two years later.

His first most acclaimed inventions was the Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD), this assist patients whose hearts are not pumping blood to maintain a blood flow while recovering from heart surgery or waiting on a heart transplant to be taken place. It is about 1.2 inches long and 1.1 inches wide and is made from titanium which is lightweight. He was a very accomplished man that set out to make a difference, which he did. He died in July 2008 (Luis).

In this article the audience is either students or professors. It was easy to read which leaves me to believe that it is more for the student audience. They are making a valid point that he was a very educated and accomplished man that set out to make a difference, and the article gave a step by step of his life and his accomplishments. This did help me understand what Michael Ellis DeBakey invented and how much his inventions made a difference and help save people’s lives.