

Benjamin Armour, Respiratory Therapist

My name is Benjamin and I have been a Respiratory Therapist since 1994. But it wasn't until my father became ill with lung cancer, that I decided Respiratory Therapy was the career for me. My father ultimately passed away as a result of respiratory failure. His care at the hospital involved many treatments where a Respiratory Therapist would suction his failing lungs. The work the Respiratory Therapist did was intriguing.

I was raising my daughter alone as a single parent, when I decided to begin a Respiratory Therapy program. The days were long and the work was very challenging. But I kept with it and graduated as a Respiratory Therapist in 1994.

The work as a Respiratory Therapist is very rewarding! There are several areas in a hospital where Respiratory Therapists are needed: Intensive Care Units (ICU), Critical Care Units (CCU), Medical Surgical Rooms and even in Labor and Delivery (if working with newborns is "your thing"). Respiratory Therapists working in Labor and Delivery suction a newborn's airway dry, assess the child's heart rate, and analyze the baby's breathing and color, and all in the first few moments of the baby's life! My favorite environment to work in is the Emergency Room – where the work is fast-paced and challenging!

In the 11 years that I have been a Respiratory Therapist I have been involved in many traveling career opportunities. I have worked all across the United States, and just recently I even had an opportunity to travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands!! Can you imagine living on an island? I worked on the Island of St. Croix for 6 months. It was a very interesting experience.

Currently, there is a large shortage of Respiratory Therapists in the USA. Many jobs cannot be filled in hospitals because there are just not enough trained professionals. We need you now! Join the many men and women who have already found Respiratory Therapy to be an exciting and rewarding career.

Before my Dad passed away, he said to me, "Find something in life where you can be of service and make a difference." I believe my work as a Respiratory Therapist is fulfilling that very request.

Explore a career in Respiratory Therapy today!