

# Luke Magnotto, MD

## Modern Day Renaissance Man

By: Sandra Lodan



**The similarities between Luke Magnotto, MD, Board Certified in Emergency Medicine, and his great-greatgreat... grandfather Leonardo Di Capua, who lived at the end of the Renaissance period (b. 1617 in Bagnoli Irpino near Naples, Italy; d. 1695), are uncanny.**

Di Capua, a noted physician, writer, mathematician and natural sciences scholar, advocated the formal study of chemistry — largely viewed as quackery at the time. Thanks to Di Capua and his like-minded cohorts, chemistry is now a cornerstone of modern science and medicine. Today, his statue stands in Bagnoli Irpino's beautiful Piazza Di Capua in honor of his many accomplishments. "His life has inspired me," Dr. Magnotto notes. To his delight, Dr. Magnotto recently found a collection containing excerpts about Di Capua's contributions to science in a Seattle library.

When not treating patients at Eisenhower Urgent Care in Palm Springs, Dr. Magnotto enjoys gardening with his wife Susan. Their hard work, daily care and the ideal Palm Springs climate result in bountiful harvests of all kinds of vegetables, herbs, peppers, huge sunflowers and Zinnias nearly year-round. Harvest time is so plentiful, much is shared with his staff.

Dr. Magnotto is also a writer. He and Susan travel to Italy, his parents' homeland, whenever possible. Residents of the small village in the hills above Lucca, Tuscany, where they own an eighth-century stone house, provide much of his rich storytelling materials. One of his books, Iva's Wedding, is a touching account of one neighbor's long-deferred love. His research into Leonardo Di Capua's life is the basis of a somewhat fictionalized book on his famed ancestor's legacy.

Dr. Magnotto's work includes a nearly completed compilation of short stories. He and Susan, who have three adult children, adopted a young child in September.