

Biography | Deidre Hall

Adored by fans spanning generations and continents, Deidre Hall is one of the most recognized and “filmed” faces in television history. Cherished by millions as the beautiful “Dr. Marlena Evans”, Hall has been a driving force in the success of NBC’s the longest running, scripted drama, Days of our Lives, Hall, a twin in a family of five children, was born to working-class parents in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The family relocated to Lake Worth, Florida when Deidre was 6. The children attended the local public schools where in high school Deidre played in the concert and marching band. And according to Deidre, “You haven’t lived until you’ve marched in the Orange Bowl parade in 85 degrees wearing a wool uniform.”

At 13, she was crowned the Junior Orange Bowl Queen, which began her career in front of an audience. One of the first young women to host her own radio show, Deidre’s passion for interacting with people was given a platform at WLIZ-Radio. Between college courses she covered news, interviews, editing and sign-on/sign-off duties at the station, working 5 days a week.

During a summer with friends in California in 1966, Deidre supported herself by booking modeling jobs and commercials. Her charisma and natural talent to connect with people helped lead to a promising acting career. Her transfer to LA Community College got her closer to the action and after many successful modeling jobs and bit-parts in commercials and popular television shows of the day; her break came in 1976 when she got the call that changed her life. NBC’s Days of our Lives needed a beautiful, strong minded and passionate actress for their lead. It was a role that needed a woman who fit the empowering social movement of the mid 1970’s and Deidre Hall was the perfect candidate. She was brought on as Dr. Marlena Evans, and the rest is television history. Shortly thereafter, she also starred in the primetime hit Our House on NBC.

From her well-grounded, working-class roots, Deidre always believed in making time for community service. She produced the Days of our Lives calendars and cookbooks with 100% of the proceeds going to St Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital. She more recently has created greeting cards from her water color paintings with 100% proceeds benefiting the Wounded Warriors Project, and when her own children entered school, she joined the school board in order to improve school lunches. She spoke to members of Congress encouraging them to renew the Child Nutrition Act, even hosting a press conference at the White House.

In 2009, she traveled with her son David to Brazil to work with disfigured children as an Ambassador for Operation Smile. Deidre is an advocate of healthy living and positive attitude

and in turn co-wrote Deidre Hall's *Kitchen Close-up*, targeting nutrition tips for those suffering with heart disease, diabetes and obesity. Her desire to help people goes deep... and it has put her in the driver seat on several television projects over the years that have promoted the awareness of special needs children and women's issues. She was one of the first actresses to publicly speak about her fertility struggles and surrogate parenting, which helped open doors for women everywhere to talk about the fertility problems which many faced every day but was seldom discussed. With her boys off to college she has enjoyed taking college courses studying everything, even taking up hobbies from ballroom dancing to American Sign Language to stand-up comedy, eventually performing on stage at the famed Hollywood Improv. This next year is expected to be an exciting one for Deidre as she is scheduled to receive her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2015.

Deidre is an advocate of healthy living and positive attitude, and to that end, she co-wrote the information-packed and humorous book: *Deidre Hall's Kitchen Close-up*, targeting nutrition tips for those suffering with heart disease, diabetes and obesity.

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