

## **White Rock Marathon holds special place for former winner William Moore**

By William Moore



After a residency in pediatrics in Dallas, I decided to focus on the marathon. My only prior experience with 26.2 miles was in Houston in 1984 when I trained for and raced the Houston Marathon. My goal was 2:19 and I was on pace until mile 22 when the marathon really starts. The wheels came off quickly and I crawled home in 2:28. Between 1991 and 1998, I tried eight more times to qualify for the Olympic Trials in the marathon, each time coming up short of my sub-2:22 goal. Finally, in 1998 at the Dallas White Rock Marathon, my training paid off. After ramping my weekly mileage up into the 130s, I cranked a 2:20:37 and achieved my long-term, elusive goal. Winning the race overall was an added bonus. Riding my wave of fitness, I ran the Austin Marathon nine weeks later and ran my PR of 2:19:15. Participating in the 2000 Olympic Marathon Trials in Pittsburgh was an amazing reward and highlight of my marathoning career.

My running career was born in 1976 when, as a five-foot-two freshman in high school, I was too small for football, baseball, and basketball. A friend in my homeroom was talking about running cross-country, so I decided to give it a try. I had some early success and was hooked. My high school career was capped off by TCIL State Championships in cross-country (9:37 for 2-miles) and the mile (4:24). I was blessed to earn a college scholarship and attended Rice University. While there, I was a two-time individual qualifier for cross-country nationals, was All-SWC in cross-country and track, captained the cross-country and track teams, and set the school record in the 3000-meter steeplechase (8:53). I kept training in medical school and PRed my second year in the 5000 meters on the track in 14:20.