



Photo courtesy of Richard Schatz

Richard Schatz

Palmaz-Schatz Coronary Stent

U.S. PATENT NO. 5,195,984: Expandable intraluminal graft

U.S. PATENT NO. 5,902,332: Expandable intraluminal graft

Inducted in 2025 Born: Oct. 24, 1952

Primary Connections:

- Scripps Heart, Lung and Vascular Center: Research Director of Cardiovascular Interventions, 1990-2022
- Duke University School of Medicine: Adjunct Professor of Medicine and Cardiology
- Arizona Heart Institute Foundation: Director of Research and Education, 1987-90
- University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio: Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, 1985-87

Education:

- The University at Buffalo: Biology, 1970-73; Honorary Doctorate, 2020
- Duke University: M.D., 1973-77; Distinguished Alumnus Award, 2003

Military Service:

- U.S. Army, 1973-87

Key Memberships/Awards:

- National Academy of Inventors: Fellow, 2021
- National Academy of Engineering: Russ Prize, 2019
- Hong Kong Cardiology Society: Lifetime Fellow, 1998; Fellow, 1989
- American College of Cardiology: Fellow, 1985

Cardiologist Richard Schatz collaborated with fellow National Inventors Hall of Fame® Inductee [Julio Palmaz](#) to invent a vascular stent suitable for treating coronary artery disease. Since 1988, the Palmaz-Schatz coronary stent and its derivatives have been used to treat millions of patients worldwide.



Full Bio: <https://www.invent.org/inductees/richard-schatz>

Things You Should Know:

- Schatz was born in 1952 in Queens, New York, and grew up on Long Island.
- He enjoyed science from a young age. “Every class and teacher from grade school to high school was incredible. My math and science curricula in particular were very advanced. I had many of my college classes in high school.”
- Schatz used money he earned by working a paper route, landscaping and construction jobs along with a scholarship to attend the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he studied biology. He received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater in 2020.
- While serving in the U.S. Army, he participated in the Health Professions Scholarship Program at Duke University Medical School; did active-duty training at medical centers in California, Colorado and Hawaii; held an internship and residence in internal medicine at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco; and was director of the cardiac catheterization labs and then acting chief of cardiology at the Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston in Texas.
- In 2019, Schatz, Julio Palmaz and three colleagues were awarded the Russ Prize from the National Academy of Engineering.
- He is a fellow of the Hong Kong Cardiology Society, the American College of Cardiology and the National Academy of Inventors.
- Schatz has 15 U.S. patents.