Dr. Alan R. Gurd, who heads the Section of Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery for The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, takes a particular interest in disadvantaged children and those with spinal deformities. And for 25 years he has merged his professional skills with his love of children and sports through his care of youngsters engaged in the Kenston School District's sports activities.

Holding degrees from Belfast’s Queen’s University and Edinburgh’s Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Gurd has been a consultant, lecturer, clinical surgical tutor and examiner at these universities and has been a clinical fellow and lecturer at Toronto’s Hospital for Sick Children and the University of Toronto. His professional memberships include orthopedic and other societies in Ireland, Scotland, England, and the U.S. He also has spent time teaching and operating in Ethiopia, Haiti and the United Arab Emirates.

Dr. Gurd and his wife, Dr. Ruth Imrie, met in medical school in Belfast and emigrated to the USA in 1976. They make their home in Chagrin Falls and both are very active members of Valley Presbyterian Church. Their four sons were born in Belfast, their daughter in Cleveland.