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## Hector “Buddy” de la Rosa, RPh

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1500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Weslaco, Texas

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Weslaco was founded in December 1919 and incorporated as a city in 1920. From day one my family has had a pharmacy (drugstore) in Weslaco, starting with my grandfather, A.G. Valdez (a graduate of the University of Arkansas Pharmacy School), who owned a drugstore from 1920 to 1962. Then, my uncle, G.E. Valdez (a graduate of University of Texas School of Pharmacy) took over the pharmacy until 1987 when my wife Terri and I opened De La Rosa Pharmacy and Medical Equipment. Our family’s legacy as practicing pharmacists started with the birth of Weslaco and continues to this day.

My wife and I are registered pharmacists and owners of De La Rosa Pharmacy and Medical Equipment in Weslaco, Texas. I was raised in Weslaco, where I also attended school, worked, went to church, and got married. I will die and be buried in Weslaco.

In high school, I was a member of TMEA State Honor Band and also a teammate of the state-ranked Weslaco High Panthers. I was awarded a football scholarship to Howard Payne College. I graduated from Pan American College with a BS and MS in 1970 and 1976, respectively. I taught chemistry and coached football in Mercedes, Texas for 8 years before retiring to pursue a career in pharmacy. I entered the University Of Texas College Of Pharmacy in 1977 and graduated and passed the boards in 1980.

While I was at the University of Texas—Austin, I was elected to the University of Texas Student Association as a Senator representing the College of Pharmacy. I was also the Regent of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, served on the University Of Texas College Of Pharmacy Admission Committee, and was selected as student representative by the President of the University to evaluate and recommend tenure for the Dean of the College of Pharmacy. I graduated as Vice-President of my senior class in May, 1980.

While at the University of Texas, I met Terri Rush, an incoming pharmacy student. Three years later, she and I married. We have four children, all of whom are in college.

My wife and I attend the First United Methodist Church and are active in the community and school activities. As a lifelong resident of Weslaco, I have served my community as a Director of the Weslaco Development City Commission and Mayor for a combined 14 years of elected service. I have also served south Texas as Director and Chairman of the Workforce Solution, for Willacy, Starr, and Hidalgo counties.

I have always believed in competition and hard work in my professional life, and I believe that tradition builds self-esteem and leadership that benefits family, church, and community. In the past few years, my pharmacy business has suffered because of what I believe is unfair competition from CVS and its PBM, Caremark.