David W. Minard attended Westminster College from 1948-51, pursuing a degree in Biology. While at Westminster, Minard was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Minard studied medicine at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine in Omaha, graduating in 1956. He completed his residency in pathology at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. Minard then served for several years in the U.S. Army before entering an orthopedic residency program at Charlotte Memorial Hospital in 1960.

In 1964, Minard completed his residency and returned to Omaha to enter private practice with The Physicians Clinic, a practice to which he would devote 30 years of service. During the early years of his practice, Minard taught students and surgical residents as a volunteer Associate Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He is certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons and was a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the American College of Surgeons and regional and local medical organizations.

In addition to his orthopedic practice, Minard has devoted his life to spirituality and medical missions. Minard began his mission work in the summer of 1978, working for six weeks at the Wanless Hospital in Miraj, India. He took the whole family along for three months to find ways to also help and then explore more of India.

From his experience in India, Minard saw a critical need for medical equipment and supplies, and for the next 20 years helped by collecting equipment and supplies from various hospitals and arranging shipment to the third world. In the 1980s he became involved with the Medical Benevolence Foundation of Houston, an organization founded to support medical missions of the Presbyterian Church, USA. Minard served on its board for seven years. In 1989, Minard and his wife worked at Evangelico Hospital in Londrina, Brazil for two weeks. At that time, he decided to take an early retirement so he could do more mission work. Minard retired in 1992 and started working in Kikuyu, Kenya, doing mostly children's orthopedics. He went to Africa four times, each for 4-6 week missions. While at home, he successfully helped raise funds to build an Orthopedic Rehabilitation Hospital at Kikuyu. During the 1990s, Minard also worked at Quang Ngai Provincial Hospital in Vietnam upon two occasions.

Since the mid-1990s, Minard has focused on his spiritual path, completing a Masters in Theology from the Sancta Sophia Seminary in Tahlequah, Oklahoma in 2004. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Philosophy and Spiritual Studies and is in the process of writing his dissertation.

Minard has also volunteered his time in the community, especially since retirement. He has served on the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity Omaha, various committees at the First United Methodist Church, the Nebraska Aids Project, and cooks and serves monthly meals at Nebraska's largest homeless shelter, the Siena/Francis House.

Minard resides in Omaha, Nebraska with his wife Pat. They have two children, Jesse and David, and two grandchildren. Minard enjoys gardening, meditation and travel. He and Pat have been to 46 states and traveled widely abroad visiting 20 countries.