

Name: Brian Savage
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- 1) What branch and unit were you in? *Air Force, 50th Civil Engineering Squadron*
- 2) What was your highest rank? *Staff Sgt*
- 3) Are you still enlisted as a reservist or National Guard? *Nope.*
- 4) Why did you join the service? *Knew I wanted to be a firefighter in the municipal world. After high school, knew Air Force firefighter program was the best in the military. Also found out that many departments give you bonus points on your exams for coming from a military background, although some municipalities only count it if you've had combat experience.*
- 5) What did you like the most about being in? *Got to see lots of places, wildland fire issues, traveled to Germany, meeting people, valuable firefighting experience.*
- 6) What did you like the least? *Military practice of promoting based on years of service rather than competency. Doesn't happen in municipal world.*
- 7) What moment most defined your military experience? *Jetta-on-a-stick. I was on three-person rescue unit at Hahn Air Base in Germany after going to Rescue School for pilot extrication and one incident that happened off the base was where a drunken serviceman drove off a dirt road and his Jetta went airborne, wrapped itself around a tree about six feet off the ground. On that call, everything went perfectly in getting the driver out. Guy ended up living, everything below his belly button was fractured and he spent eight months in the hospital, but was eventually discharged and sent home. I still have the pictures, in fact.*
- 8) What made you choose firefighting as a career? *Wanted to be a firefighter while still in elementary school and the firefighters showed up at school on Fire Service Day.*
- 9) What do you like the most about firefighting? *The variety, you never know what you're going to get. The challenge is very rewarding. Helping people is great.*
- 10) What do you like least about firefighting? *Being away from home, missing stuff with the family, like birthdays and my kids' sports. I'm in a federal incident management team, so I go away for 21 days at a time.*