

Name: Darryl Cleveland
Position: Fire Captain/Paramedic
Fire Department: Corona FD
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- 1) What branch and unit were you in? *Air Force 1984-1988 as a firefighter in South Dakota at Ellsworth AFB.*
- 2) What was your highest rank? *Senior Airman E4.*
- 3) Are you still enlisted as a reservist or National Guard? *No.*
- 4) Why did you join the service? *Starting as Fire Explorer with LA County FD where I met some firefighters and found out the Air Force was the only place in the military where I could be strictly a firefighter and get the kind of training I wanted. Plus, I had always wanted to be in the service.*
- 5) What did you like the most about being in? *Lots of good experience and training. I had lots of opportunities off-base as a volunteer firefighter and with state firefighter training there. Gained responsibility and experience at an early age.*
- 6) What did you like the least? *I don't have any complaints.*
- 7) What moment most defined your military experience? *One person more than one experience. Chief Master Sergeant James Eakes, who's long since retired, taught me the most and gained my respect as a mentor.*
- 8) What made you choose firefighting as a career? *Worked as a CDF seasonal firefighter for six months before joining Air Force, but really I'd wanted to be a firefighter since I was a kid.*
- 9) What do you like the most about firefighting? *Everything, it's a great career.*
- 10) What do you like least about firefighting? *Separation from family, especially on incident command assignments (10 so far in 2006 for 53 days total), including lots of overtime this year, it's been a busy year.*