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After high school I left college to join the U.S. Marines in 1966 and later transferred to the Army to become a helicopter pilot, serving in Vietnam where I flew Huey helicopters and gunships. I left active duty in 1971 and joined the Texas National Guard where I got to "fly helicopters for free." After graduating from Trinity University in 1974, I went to work for Geomap as a geologist and stayed with that company for the next 26 years, where I eventually became its president. I transferred from the Texas National Guard to the U.S. Army Reserves in 1976 in order to serve as a medical evacuation helicopter pilot in Houston. In 1978, I married Teresa, an A&M graduate. We have two daughters, Heather and Jessica. In 2000, I was called to active duty, received special training and was deployed to Iraq in 2004, where I was assigned as the "Chief Analyst-Iraq Oil and Gas Infrastructure." In that capacity I authored numerous – mostly classified – papers on Iraq future reserves and exploration potential of the country. I have also worked with the Iraq Oil Ministry and government agencies to rebuild their infrastructure, and was involved in giving advice on several oil and gas articles of their constitution. My military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, two Purple Hearts, Bronze Star, 40 Air Medals, Command Master Pilot's Wings, Combat Action Badge, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and several others. I retired in 2008 from the Army after 41 years and currently work as a geological consultant in San Antonio, Texas

