

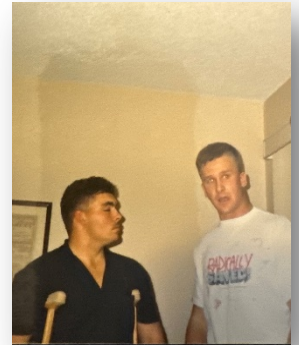


L/CPL JAMES D RUSSELL

I entered The Marine Corps through the Delayed Entry Program in September 1986 and earned my PFC Rank for recruiting 2 other Marines, and the 3 of us entered Boot Camp on Parris Island, South Carolina on Aug 12, 1987, and Graduated November 5, 1987. I then went to Camp Pendleton, California for The School of Infantry and then in late January of 1988, I was sent to the Marine Corps Security Force Regiment in Virginia Beach, VA where I went through 8152 Training of Basic Security Guard for service within Marine Corps Security Force Regiment.

My first duty station was at Polaris Missile Facility located in Goose Creek, South Carolina. Our Marine Corps Detachment was responsible for all access to the base and in the secured areas, any violation

required a security call to the Marines, and we had to respond in 5 minutes or less. We were also responsible for escorting the transportation of the weapons ordinance to the Naval Station Charleston. During a response to a security violation at approximately 0230, I attempted to jump over the moat that separated the magazines holding the weapons ordinance. As I landed, I felt my knee snap and hit the ground. I was then taken to Naval Weapons Hospital in Charleston, SC. During the examination it was discovered that I had torn 97% of the ACL. After my initial 3-month recovery and physical therapy I was transferred to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and assigned to 1st Bn 2dMar 2dMArDiv FMF. However, during my time here, I reinjured my knee 2 additional times. After medical review board I was discharged November 29, 1989, on a Medical with Honorable Conditions.



After being discharged, I returned to Baltimore, Maryland where I started work as a Nursing Technician II. My duties included responding to Cardiac Arrests, psych ward, detox patients and other smaller duties as needed. In the summer of 1990, I went to Camp Hope, this is an organization in western Maryland to help the people of Appalachia, while there I blew my right knee out once again. Following that surgery I moved to Jacksonville, Florida the fall of 1991.

While in Florida I began work in the Security Industry in 1991 with the rank of SGT at Deerwood Golf and Country Club, Epping Forrest Yacht Club, Jacksonville Country Club, Hidden Hills Country Club, Plantation at Ponte Vedra, and Sawgrass Country Club. In all these communities we enforced access control and responded to alarms and emergencies. In 1993, I was Promoted to Field Supervisor and handled all business matters of the 30 accounts for the midnight shift. In 1997, I was promoted to Post Commander of Deer Creek Golf and Country Club with the rank of Captain. I worked with the Board of Directors and the Security committee, where we developed access control regulations, and enforced the HOA rules and regulations. We did this by certifying all Patrol officers on RADAR so they could write citations when needed for speeding and or reckless driving with fees authorized by the Board of Directors and enforced through their HOA Management Team. We also enforced access control and responded to alarms and emergencies.

I Married my now ex-wife, Naomi Russell, on December 03, 2000. We were blessed with two daughters, Lillian who is 23 and Jadyn is 17. Lilli is a student at Pellissippi Community College, and Jade is Senior at Halls High School. In 2007 I became the President of the Homeowners Association of Riverside Community in ST Johns, Florida. I had to ensure that all rules and regulations were followed and work with the property management team to enforce fines and judgement as needed. I did this for 1 year and then to Sterling, Colorado. I started working for Walmart as a Department Manger over Hardware and 1 year later in 2009 we transferred to Knoxville, Tennessee 15 years ago, I left Walmart in May of 2012 and started with UPS, where I work as a Training Supervisor for new Hires and assist anywhere else that I am needed, I also work as an Insurance Agent for Auto and Home and I am licensed in 49 States and DC for Answer Financial/an ALLSTATE Company and have been there for 11 years.



I had been a heavy smoker for over 20 years and quit smoking on Dec 24, 2015, it was at this time my health began to decline, and it was very difficult for doctors to pinpoint the reason why. In May of 2016 it was determined that my thyroid was not working properly, and I was diagnosed with Hashimoto's disease. While we had some answers, my health still declined and I had difficulty lifting things and even had trouble with manual labors tasks, that I once had no problems doing. It would be another Four grueling years filled with tests until the diagnosed me with ALS, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, on March 02, 2020. The only relief we had was the neurologist saying it was very slow in progression. After 4 years if struggling with depression and anticipation of death, I decided to join the Marine Corps League this past March.

I am extremely grateful for the camaraderie of my fellow brother and sisters and look forward to being part of it for years to come.