

A Veteran's Story

Texas Capital Bank is the faithful "home" to an honored Marine

Jack Redus' colleagues have thrown him four Texas Capital Bank going-away parties. It's a fact that embarrasses him, but it also serves to illustrate the life he has lived and the esteem in which he is held.

In 2001, Jack watched the events of 9/11 unfold on TV from one of the bank's Dallas locations. Like many people, he was deeply affected by the images he saw; but unlike most people, he decided to join the military and serve his country. Jack's family's military legacy was one of many Marine veterans so there was little question as to which branch he would join. In the fall of 2002, shortly after telling his manager about his plans, he applied to the Marine Corps Reserves.

Marines in the Reserve go through the same intense training and are assigned to the same specialties as their active-duty counterparts so they stand ready to support the Marine Corps in combat assignments, humanitarian efforts and national emergencies. However, with the ability to continue their training near home or school, they can pursue a full-time civilian career or an education.

Jack's first going-away party saw him off to boot camp in San Diego, CA where the next ten months were the most grueling mental and physical experiences he ever endured, which is saying something when he went on to survive three tours of duty in Middle Eastern combat zones! 100 men started the program, but his graduating class had only 40.

After boot camp, infantry school and several specialty schools, he came back to work at Texas Capital Bank (TCB), as he would many times throughout his military career, and waited for "the call." In 2004, his unit was told they would be deploying to a then-little-known region of Iraq called Fallujah. Going-away party numbers two and three covered his send-off to Iraq in the fall of 2004, as well as a false alarm three months prior. Throughout his time overseas, his friends at TCB kept in touch and sent care packages, including a memorable one that contained MP3 players for his entire unit.

After a year at home, two more ten-month tours followed—a second one in Iraq and a final one in Afghanistan. In 2008, Jack was offered a position with the Department of Defense. Two weeks after he was honorably discharged from the Marines, he, ironically, found himself back in Baghdad. During his time in Dallas, he had his fourth going-away party, because now that he had a full-time U.S. government job and was no longer a Reservist, he had to formally leave the bank.

In December of 2013, Jack was in the middle of sensitive negotiations in Afghanistan with local tribal leaders and missed several personal calls. Hours later, he saw a message that would change his life. There was a family emergency and he needed to get home as quickly as possible. It took him more than two days to get back to Dallas. His journey included a helicopter ride out of the Pakistan mountains, a three-hour car ride posing as an Afghan local through some of the most dangerous areas of Afghanistan, a plane ride to the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, a four-hour flight to Dubai, then his final 17-hour flight to DFW.

Around this time, TCB Recruiting got a call from two bank employees who were former coworkers and remained close friends with Jack. They explained that Jack was coming home for good and was interested in coming back to the bank. It didn't take long for the bank's CEO, CFO and director of Corporate Security to agree that Jack needed to come "home" and work with the bank's Corporate Security team. Not only would his background be invaluable, he would also be surrounded by other military veterans who could understand what he had been through in his combat roles.

Hopefully, it will be a long time before Jack has another going away party, but in the meantime, he is serving Texas Capital Bank as responsibly and honorably as he did his country. Semper Fi!

