

What is the best job you've ever had?



I have had four jobs that were the best and it is a toss up which one was the BEST of them.

Blue Springs Trout Farm - I took the opportunity to move to Northern Arkansas and run the trout farm for dad. The 100 acres was a great place to be in the country. With a house on the hill overlooking the valley and ponds. Crisp mornings and taking care of the trout was not a lot of work. There was no chasing them around a field, herding them into corrals, lifting heavy bales of hay and watering in the winter when it was cold. In the morning you just got a few scopes of trout food and watch the trout boil the top of water and see how pretty the colors of a Rainbow trout was. It was a fish out operation and we got to meet a lot of interesting people who came by the trout farm to fish and catch some trout.

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I got real good at cleaning the trout. So good I started selected and cleaning 8-10 oz trout to sell to some store in town. The trout did not take a lot of care during the day, mostly sat in the shade and watched a few big trout in the upper pond of the runways where the spring came out. There was one 2-3 lb female trout that would come up to the surface and liked to have her stomach rubbed. Also we got to have the fun of a little target shooting, or actually bird shooting. A couple types of birds like to fish and eat our stock and I worked on keeping their numbers down. It was fun and a great place to live....

US Army - I had recently gotten divorced and had been looking for the recruiting station for the French Foreign Legion but I guess they don't recruit in the USA. I found the Army recruiter and then was having second thoughts. I am not big on crawling

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thru mud, marching 20 miles and being on the ground in a zone with nothing but maybe body armor. But then they told me there was also the Armor Division. I would get \$6000 for graduating from basic armor training. I could go in as an E3, which gave me a leg up on most the other recruits. Of course being 31 instead of 18-21 got me ahead of things as well. They also said that I did not have to go to the regular "Basic Training", that there was one stop training at Ft Knox where we had our basic for armor and started training on tanks pretty much the first day. He promised the furthest I would have to march or walk, was from the Armory to the motor pool. The only bad thing we had at armor basic was going the gas chamber, but that only lasted about 30 minutes. I graduated 2nd Trainee in the Company and 2nd highest score in our PT training. Mostly we did 60 pushups, 60 sit-ups and 2 mile run. I actually liked the running and with my long legs, I got in a pace and could go on much more than 2 miles. My bonus got me a Chev pickup and off to Ft Riley, Kansas for my first assignment. Promoted to E4 right away and got Corporal stripes. Kansas was fun.... Then assigned to Germany and to a small town Ansbach, near Nuremberg, Germany. I was having a lot of fun in Germany, learning to ski, traveling to Austria, Switzerland, France and Spain. I did do a little of work on my tank in the motor pool.

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I started working for the Enlisted club nights as a manager. Got promoted to E5 Sgt and was tank commander basically. I was on the Platoon Sgt tank and he was only there when we actually rolled out of the motor pool to go have fun. I was doing so well that I was moved to the NCO Club for my fun night job. It was fun to meet everyone and have extra cash. I was working for the Non Appropriated Funds that ran the clubs. They wanted me full time, so when re-enlistment came around I said no and they released me from my unit to manage Officers Club for over 6 months before I got out of the Army. Unfortunately, I did not get another assignment right away so I had to come home.

Wiesbaden Rod & Gun Club - About 1 years after leaving the Army, I got a call and asked did I want to work in Germany again? Of course I did, so got to go back to Germany and had complete control of running and operating the Rod & Gun Club with small bar and pistol range. We also had a stream leased from the Germans for US soldiers to fish and we controlled that

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too. I got to meet a lot of locals because since the club was off base we could allow the Germans in and they taught us the hunting and fishing regulations for Germany.



The kids got to come over as well. Wendy spent two years with me and TJ spent one year. He did not care for being there much. I met my second wife, Gaby and life was very good. We went skiing a lot and she got a job in the Public Relations Office at the base across the river. She was the PR person for a auto race that was using the airfields and it was a lot of fun to have unlimited access to the races that weekend.

Jack Henry & Assoc - I had gotten divorced for the 3rd time while living in Reno, Nevada and was feeling I needed a new start in life. Also dad had another knee operation and mom was needing help caring for him. TJ and I took turns spending 7-10 days in Hornbeck, LA to help While I was there I was on laptop looking for a new job. I was not moving to LA but I had been in Texas years before and always wanted to live in Dallas, so I started job

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searching. I was lucky and found JHA and they had me take a test online and talked to me twice and hired me. They paid for the move from Reno to Dallas as well. Paid me a lot more than what I was paid in Reno, great insurance and 19 days of vacation first year. The work was easy for me and I was soon the team lead. I used all my vacation every year and made enough money I could travel to Europe almost every year. I took a couple cruises each year. Had a nice house with a pool and hot tub..... Had a nice Goldwing and Jaguar to drive. Life was good....

Those were great jobs but then depending on other life circumstances I ended up leaving them....