

## **Donald Ausbrooks, Attended 1972-74, Fire Science**

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**Years Attended:** 1972-74

**Area of Study:** Fire Science

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Don writes to us:

"I retired in 1986, as Fire Chief from the United States Navy at NAS Chase Field located at Beeville, Texas. After retiring I worked in Security for Diamond Shamrock at Three Rivers, Texas for four years before moving to Corpus Christi, Texas. After I moved to Corpus Christi, I went to work for the City of Corpus Christi for 4 years. After I quit work for the City I quit working except being a house-husband doing yard and house work since my wife was and is still working.

I enjoyed my work at all the places I worked, but my work in the Fire service was the best thing I could have ever did. I enjoyed it from the first day until my retirement. I never set foot in any Fire Station since my retirement. I went back to school to get my degree in real state, which I never used because at the time of Jimmie Carter was President the bottom dropped out the housing market and you couldn't give a house away. Yavapai College is a wonderful school and anyone who attends will come away with a good education and be a better person for attending.

My memories of Yavapai are mainly about the hard work that it took for me a 42 year old man competing with young people half my age, with a clear mind, straight out of school. I had the knowledge of firefighting but not on a college level. These people would finish their test in half the time it took me. They were a great bunch to go to school. Hands-on training was very easy for me since I had been doing it for 20 years. This is where I bested my fellow students. At book smarts and math, they were the best. They showed me a lot of respect for my age and experience. All GREAT students! My fellow classmates impacted my life with their going out of their way to assist me in some of my math. As I stated before, they were great. I had one instructor that taught math that was an excellent instructor. I can't recall his name but he was with the Flagstaff Fire Department.

At the time I was attending the College, I was also the Fire Chief for the City of Page and later for the Navajo Army Depot in Flagstaff, Arizona. May all the students that attend Yavapai College have GREAT and REWARDING life, and may you have a great love of education and knowledge gained by attending college at this great school.”