

Tinley Park resident Steve Noodwang joined the United States Army in October 1992 and served on Active Duty until December 2000 as Combat Medical Specialist. He completed his Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky and went onto Advanced Individual Training to become a United States Army Combat Medical Specialist at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio Texas. After competing in training at Fort Sam Houston in April 1993, he was assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center (W.R.A.M.C.) in Northwest Washington D.C. During his time at W.R.A.M.C. he served on the Cardio-Thoracic stepdown unit, Post Anesthesia Care Unit. Additionally, he was able to serve two summers at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin in support of United States Reserve and National Guard units at the Troop Medical Clinic #2. Additionally, he also was detached to Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland between his first and second summer at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. In November of 1997, he was assigned to the 1/27th Field Artillery Battalion in Babenhausen Germany. In April 1999, Steve and his unit were activated and deployed to Albania in support of operations in Kosovo. Steve and his unit were then deployed to a plot of land that is now known as Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. Steve and his unit were awarded the Kosovo Campaign Medal with Bronze Star for their service in Kosovo. Steve departed active service of the United States Army in December 2000.

During his time in the service, he made many friends and acquaintances. While serving in Germany, Steve was able to make several trips to Paris, France, Euro Disney and Venice Italy. Steve also took up Scuba Diving during his final year in Germany and served as an assistant diving instructor. This allowed Steve to be able to dive iconic locations such as Omaha Beach, Normandy France, Pula Croatia and Gozo Malta.

During his service to our Country, Steve learned that there is more to life than living for oneself but serving others. Steve served Bremen VFW Post 2791 as the Commander of the Honor Guard where he is still an active member. Steve has found that service to his fellow veterans did not end at the end of his enlistment but continues today with honoring past, present and future veterans and is extremely rewarding.