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- WILL WILLIAMS
BUSINESS ANALYST

DROPPING ANCHOR

Will Williams served 17 years in the United States Navy as a Quartermaster before joining Yaskawa in 2001. “I had the opportunity to see the world as a ship navigator and visited 44 countries. We would spend 5 years on a ship and 2 years on land and then do it again, which is a lot of moving around. My job was to plan the trips, properly navigate the ships, and assure the captain that we were properly prepared to get to the next destination. I performed this function on three different vessels during my Navy career, which was a big responsibility.”

Will grew tremendously during his time serving the country.

While the knowledge he gained in the Navy didn't directly translate to his role at Yaskawa, it did prepare him to obtain the proper education to develop himself and help build his career path. The experience made him realize that he wanted a place where he could stay and grow. “I didn't want to move around anymore like I did in the military. I wanted to find a solid organization where I knew I could advance.”

As it turned out, Yaskawa helped him do just that.

“Yaskawa empowered me to pursue different areas of work that interested me. If you engage and lean into opportunities, you find tremendous resources and support. Management stands alongside you, and I never felt like I couldn't achieve here. I've pursued opportunities and experience in repair, tech support, and service, and now I am a business

analyst supporting the tech support group. Yaskawa allowed me to pursue these roles and helped equip me to be successful.”

Will is grateful for the people that helped him along his career. People like Scott Monaco and Tom Lazarus. “Yaskawa's culture endures and thrives because there is so much longevity and loyalty. I look at Scott who recommended me to the company 22 years ago, and he's still here today. Tom was my hiring manager and he's also still here. Most of the colleagues who started around the time I did are still here and have grown in their careers. We're like family, everyone is connected and cares. I've even seen people who left Yaskawa to pursue other opportunities end up coming back, which says a lot about our company!” Will says there's also a great sense of teamwork and collaboration at Yaskawa. “Team members are here for each other and support one another regardless of title. Leaders guide, help, and develop their teams, and drive to success. We have several new team members now and they often look to me for help. I guide and train them on the processes and procedures, but I also try to show them that their success is about more than following the process. What they uniquely bring to the role adds to the team. The more I think about it, the reality is that because they have fresh eyes and new perspectives, I learn from them too. We learn, grow, and can ultimately succeed together!”

