Edward Upshaw had three goals: learn to fly, become an undercover police officer, and scuba dive.

“Check, check and check!” he says.

He’s the Chandler Heights Substation Commander with undercover experience, a veteran of the United States Air Force, a pilot, and a martial artist. He volunteers for several youth-focused organizations and he learned to dive.

In fact, he’s an adaptive diver scuba instructor who volunteers for Lifewaters, a program that certifies paralyzed veterans, amputees and veterans with traumatic brain injuries to become open water scuba divers.

“Chandler has provided me with so much, and anyone who volunteers their time knows you get more out of it than you put in,” he says.

Edward has volunteered with ICON for more than 26 years. He’s the president of the Chandler Coalition on Youth Substance Abuse and volunteers for the Chandler I AM Project to address the growing opioid epidemic.

He’s been a police officer for 32 years, and when Edward retires, he hopes to travel the world with his wife and scuba dive whenever possible. His wife and two daughters dive, as well.

Words he lives by? “It’s a round world. What goes around comes around.”—MG

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