

Can you identify the focus and “Nut Graf” of this story?

## Pilot follows in footsteps of fighter-flying father

*by Airman 1st Class Angela Furry, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea (AFNS) -- Following in their father's footsteps isn't always something everybody does eagerly, but for fighter pilot Maj. Dayne Jacoby, who serves in the same squadron his father and his younger brother did before him, there is nothing else he'd even consider.

Jacoby, quality adviser for the 51st Operations Group as well as a pilot for the 36th Fighter Squadron, comes from a second-generation family legacy of fighter pilots, which may someday even become home to a third-generation.

"One of my earliest memories is when my dad took me up to a range tower while I was in kindergarten to watch the F-100s fly in and drop bombs and strafe," he said. "In fact, I took my son John up to a range tower in Germany to watch the planes, and at two-and-a-half years of age he could identify every plane that flew in. His mom learned not to argue with him, because he was always right. So, we may be raising another generation of fighter pilots."

Dayne's father, retired Lt. Col. Jack Jacoby, flew with the 36th FS when it was stationed at Itazuki Air Base, Japan, from December 1959 to December 1962. His brother, Maj. Tim Jacoby, flew with the 36th FS when the unit first started flying F-16s at Osan in April 1989 until April 1990. He is now stationed at McChord Air Force Base, Wash. Dayne joined the 36th FS in April 1997. Dayne spoke about the positive influence his father has on his life.

"Dad would call home and say that he was flying home, and then he would fly over the house," he said. "I remember when I was a kid, my mom would tell us to go outside and look up in the sky. So me and all of the other neighborhood kids would go outside and look up to see the planes fly past, and I'd tell all the kids, 'There goes my dad.' I was very proud of what he did."

Now that Dayne is a father himself, that tradition continues.

"I was walking with my son along the street when he was about two, and a plane flew by. He pointed up and said, 'Daddy!' And then he looked at

me standing there, and back at the plane, trying to figure out how I could be there (with him) and flying at the same time."

The parallel of the Jacoby pilots' careers goes even further. Dayne attended pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, Ariz., the same place where his father was an instructor pilot. He and his brother have both flown the F-16 and the A-10, and all three Jacobys have flown the T-37 as instructor pilots.

Dayne's brother Tim emphasized that even though his father is a positive role model in his life, his father didn't push him into the career field. "It was all my own effort to apply to the Air Force Academy and follow in my brother's footsteps," he said. "It was while I was at the Air Force Academy that I became motivated to pursue a fighter pilot career. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experiences along the way and agree with my father that it must run in our blood and many others who have said flying fighters is the most fun you can have with your clothes on!"

Jack visited Tim when he was stationed at Osan, and noted that even though technology was different and the political climate has changed, the people at Osan were still the same -- the same dedication, spirit and effort to be the best.

"The thing that never seems to change is that fighter pilots can never get enough of that wonderful stuff -- flying time," said Jack.

But Dayne didn't become a fighter pilot simply because his father did. He said the career has its own intrinsic value.

"It's exiting, challenging, and it's never the same," Dayne explained. "It's the most challenging thing you can do. Think of it like driving a race car. You use a lot of physical and mental skills you don't use in a lot of other jobs. I think of three things my dad taught me that especially apply to flying skills -- coordination, concentration and confidence. Also, patriotism motivates me. Defending our country, defending other's freedom and helping them achieve the same freedom we have is something I believe in."