



First Sgt. James Masotto
U.S. Air Force
2007 – Republic of Kyrgyzstan
2009 – Baghdad, Iraq
2010 – Kandahar, Afghanistan

First Sgt. James Masotto, Sharon, PA comes from a long line of military family members and his son, Cody, continues to carry on the military traditions as he serves at McChord Air Force Base. Sgt. Masotto's great great grandfather, Louis Brest, was a "Medal of Honor" recipient for his efforts during the Civil War. Mr. Brest is buried in Mercer.

First Sgt. Masotto joined the U. S. Air Force in November of 1986 – 1990. In 1991 through 1994 he served in the PA Air Guard. In 2005 he joined the Air Force Reserve and continues to serve in the Reserve today. During his tenure with the Air Force Reserve he has been based at the 76th Aerial Port Squadron, Youngstown Air Reserve Station. In 2013 he was named "First Sergeant of the Year".

In 1994 Jim enrolled in and graduated from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Academy and then began his tenure at the Mercer State Prison. Afterward he attended the Mercy Hurst Police Academy and was hired by the City of Sharon as a police officer, where he continues to be employed. In 1997 he was named "Officer of the Year". He has served as a "DARE" officer, Taser Instructor and Field Training Officer.

Masotto has been deployed to the Middle East three (3) times – in 2007 to Manas Air Base, Republic of Kyrgyzstan; in 2009 to Bagdad, Iraq; and in 2010 to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Further he serves as the Jr. Vice Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1338. In this capacity he continues to serve the needs of other veterans and is on a committee that selects and sends veterans from all branches of the armed forces on trips to national war memorials as a show of gratitude for their service to their country. These are "all expenses paid" trips sponsored by VFW Post #1338 and American Legion Post #299. The veterans' clubs are pooling their resources to find candidates to send (along with a companion) to the nation's capital to visit the monuments dedicated to those who've fought for freedom. "Our veterans' clubs give so much to the community. They'd do anything for a veteran", he states. To this day Masotto carries an American Flag he found on State Street with him that has been to Iraq and Afghanistan with him. Sgt Masotto has also served his community through his efforts with the Sharon Rotary Club. Sharon Rotary Club named him "Person of the Year for 2010".

A 1982 graduate of Sharon High School, Masotto is married to Linda (both are life long residents of Sharon). They have two sons, Jordan of Sharon and Cody who is serving in the U.S. Air Force at McChord Air Force Base.