AFFILIATE-EXCLUSIVE BONUS #5

Interview Etiquette Guide

For family members sitting down with a veteran

If you're the one asking the questions -- not the veteran themselves -- a few small habits make a real difference in how open and comfortable they feel.

1. **Don't bring a list of twenty questions**
   Pick one topic per sitting. A long list feels like an interrogation, not a conversation.

2. **Put the phone or recorder somewhere unobtrusive**
   A device held up and pointed at someone changes how they talk. Set it down and let it fade into the background.

3. **React like a listener, not a journalist**
   Nod, react naturally, ask a genuine follow-up. Don't just wait for your next scripted question.

4. **Never correct their memory**
   Even if a detail seems off from what you remember hearing before, let it be their version. This is their story, not a fact-check.

5. **Say thank you, specifically**
   At the end, mention one specific thing that stood out to you. It reinforces that the conversation mattered, not just the recording.

6. **Follow their lead on hard topics**
   If they change the subject, let them. They will often circle back on their own terms if given the space to.