I am probably not your typically Zappos Code applicant. I am 35 and have an associate degree in computer programming from a technical university. I have been a software engineer at Lockheed Martin for thirteen years working on simulations and training applications for the U.S. Navy. Three years ago I was promoted to Site Lead responsible for all aspects of simulation development process onsite at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratories to support the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. As my years at Lockheed progressed the work got more exciting and challenging but unfortunately the work atmosphere has gotten progressively worse. We are no longer permitted to bring in an iPod, cell phone, or even a CD and the internet completely is off limits due to security issues. I am looking for a major change in my career path and am no longer wish to work in the defense industry. Since moving into the Site Lead position three years ago I have not got to spend as much time as I would like programming and had to spend the majority of my time focusing on project management duties. I would like to take my career in a new direction and work for a company that is focused on providing a fun and exciting work atmosphere. I found your Zappos Code program after my head hunter forwarded me one of your positions he thought I would be a good fit for. I have been working on my own at home to learn the newest web technologies, not something that is big in the defense industry. When I found your program I thought it would be a perfect way for me to get up to speed quickly and get to know and learn from some of the best in the industry. Working with the right people in the right atmosphere is the most important factor in my decision to accept a new position and Zappos seems to offer a great atmosphere focusing on keeping employees happy, creative and productive. I am very impressed by your corporation and think this program is a fantastic way to find the right new employees. I have a genuine passion for learning new technologies and was constantly expanding our technical capabilities at Lockheed Martin from simple computer based training applications when I started to our present capability to produce real-time 3D simulations utilizing the latest game engine technology (CryEngine3). I would really like an opportunity to learn from your team and to show you how my thirteen years experience working on and leading multi-million dollar development efforts can benefit your company.