

Frequently (?) Asked Questions

Where's Poynette? -- A little north and right of the People's Republic of Madison.

Birthplace? -- Hospital closest to Wrigley Field.

Why city management? -- Do difficult stuff. Make places better. Donuts rarely more than a few steps away, and it holds at least the possibility of being a meritocratic slice of workaday life.

Does this look infected? -- More like inflamed.

What are you most proud of? -- There is zero utility in pride. I try to be grateful instead.

Hobbies? -- Mountain climbing, firefighting, woodworking.

Firefighting is a hobby? -- Volunteer department.

Greatest fear? -- (tie) Missing someone on a primary search. Bad kerning on my tombstone.

Have you saved any room for dessert? -- That is the reason I am here.

Captain Kirk or Captain Picard? -- Han Solo.

What is the meaning of life? -- Not pretending to not know things is a good start.

Any words of wisdom? -- Lighten up, Francis.

How many times have you been hit by a car/truck? -- Five.

You mean like in a car accident? -- No, I mean like my body bounced off a car/truck five times.

Most grateful for? -- Family. General spirit of resilience. Motocross muscle memory. Thomas Jefferson telling King George to pound sand.

You really think becoming a firefighter at 60 was a good idea? -- You betcha. So was providing every Davenport kid a college scholarship and founding Prairie Crossing Charter School.

Little known, not very useful skill? -- Juggling.

Little known, not very debilitating physical constraint? -- Cannot hop on my right foot. Cannot bend my left big toe.

Those seem ... specific? -- You get whacked by five cars & let me know how it goes.

Any lingering impact? -- Moved from centerfield to third base.

Besides having lived at a Fortress of Solitude, anything else in common with Superman? -- Nigh-invulnerability, minty-fresh breath, red boots.

How many cults have you joined? -- Pilot Precise v5 blue pens. Chicago hot dogs. Yamaha engines. The Michael Mann, Jeanne Gang and Mary Margaret Jones admiration societies.

What's the deal with you and baseball? -- Baseball is life.

Five favorite bands? -- Replacements¹, Talking Heads, B-52s, Gaslight Anthem, Regrettes, Cheap Trick, Old 97s, Springsteen, Petty, Amanda Shires, Steve Earle, Meg Myers, Sturgill Simpson, Josh Ritter, Brandi Carlile, Liz Phair, TV On The Radio, Justin Townes Earle, John Prine, Tangerine Dream, BRMC, Cranberries, Cannonball Adderley, Hold Steady, Gary Clark Jr, Lauren Jenkins, Lumineers, Green Day, Florence + Machine, Hold Steady, Yeah Yeah Yeahs, The National, ...

That's more than five -- A prosaic allegiance to the social construct of integers is no way to live.

Ten favorite cars? -- In order, Lancia Stratos, Lancia 037, Lexus LFA², Toyota AW11³, Vector W8, Ferrari 288 GTO, Lotus Esprit, Jeep CJ-5, 63 Split Window Vette, 65 Mustang Fastback

That's exactly ten. -- A person's ten favorite cars is serious business, and requires precision.

How did three non-wedge cars make the Top Ten? -- I dunno. Life's a mystery.

Ever been criticized for spending too much on baseball diamonds, skateparks and libraries everywhere you've worked? -- Hard to tell because the song in my heart is kinda loud.

How many cups of coffee in a typical day? -- Zero, in my life.

Red boots? -- Lowa Mountain Expert GTX Evos (love them, highly recommend)

<https://www.rei.com/product/866158/lowa-mountain-expert-gtx-evo-mountaineering-boots-mens>

¹ Paul Westerberg is the Francis Scott Key of ironic detachment

² Yamaha powered

³ Yamaha powered