**LONG**

**LEAD YOURSELF FIRST**
Veteran leadership speaker, Lt. Col (reserve) Mike Erwin, to be on campus October 25th from 7:00PM – 8:00-PM in the Davis Learning center.

The speaker is part of Veteran Leadership Speaker Series sponsored by the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Veteran Student Resource Center, Student Veterans Organization, Student Campus Enhancement Fund, the Dean of Students, and local business donations.

Mike graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. He was commissioned as an Intelligence Officer, serving in three combat tours with the First Cavalry Division and 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne).  His service includes deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004–2005—that involved the Battles of Fallujah and Najaf. Mike also deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2006-2007 and 2009. On those tours, he served as a lead intelligence planner for NATO operations. Mike earned two Bronze Star Medals from these tours.

While in graduate school in 2010, Mike founded a non-profit organization named Team Red, White & Blue. Team RWB’s mission is to enrich the lives of America’s veterans by connecting them to their communities through physical and social activity. He volunteered as the Executive Director for 3 years and continues to serve as Chairman of the Board. Team RWB has 115,000 members and 190 chapters across the world.

Mike recently co-authored a book titled “Lead Yourself First”.  His talk in the DLC will for focus on research that explains how much the world and workplace has changed in the past 10-15 years, then make the case that getting to solitude is more crucial today than ever before. The talk will highlight some of history’s most remarkable leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Jane Goodall, General (ret) and Secretary Defense James Mattis have relied on solitude to achieve clarity of thought to lead themselves and those around them.

This list of recent talks by Mike includes 8 of 10 major Nasa centers, the Boston Celtics, New Jersey Devils, University of Michigan and Proctor and Gamble.  This talk promises to provide valuable and practical leadership advice Mike has gained both in and out of the Military.

SHORT: Join Veterans, Students, and others for an informative and insightful evening talk about leadership in and of the military and how solitude has benefited leaders throughout history.

