

2022 West Salem High School Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee - Mike Greene

Mike Greene is a 1985 graduate of West Salem High School. His classmates said Mike was always the smartest and most driven kid in school, a combination that always leads to great success. After high school graduation, Mike attended West Point, where he graduated sixth in a class of 1,100 competitive cadets. He then received a prestigious Marshall Scholarship to the London School of Economics. After completing his Masters degree there in 1991, he entered active duty with the U.S. Army. During his eight years of service, he led his unit, the 52nd Engineers, in their deployments to Belize, Haiti and El Salvador. Mike was a member of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in Haiti in the mid-1990s and led some of the first soldiers into El Salvador in the aftermath of a bloody civil war to build schools with USAID.

After leaving the Army, Mike took a position with CNH Global, where he led a team of executives on a global study to improve agriculture through the use of sensors, satellites, and geo-spatial data. He then transferred to Turin, Italy to implement a uniform system of global supply chain management. His desire to return to the Midwest resulted first with a position with McKinsey and Company, and then later with Ameriprise Financial Advisors. Mike currently serves as Senior Vice President for Financial Planning and Advisor Business Development. In recognition of his outstanding work, he was elected to the board of directors of the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, an 80,000 member organization dedicated to improving financial advice for consumers.

Outside of his professional life, both Mike and his wife have a passion for service. This is reflected through an organization dear to their hearts called Friends of San Lucas, a non-profit assisting the people of San Lucas, Guatemala by building schools, hospitals, homes, a womens' center, and creating jobs through a coffee program. He has served as their chairperson for many years, making countless trips to the area to assist with these programs. He and his wife, Stephanie, also a West Salem graduate, are now returning to the Coulee Region.

-Written by John Hetland, 1974 West Salem graduate and member of the Alumni Hall of Fame Committee