

Mark Johnson

Our guest speaker today is Mark Johnson of Eudora, Kansas.

Mark's a member of the Kansas Leadership Forum and is one of America's top motivational speakers, traveling the world and the United States speaking about Leadership and Team Building. He has made presentations in nearly every U.S. state as well as twelve nations overseas.

After graduating from KU, Mark spent twenty-one years as a Special Forces, Green Beret officer achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He commanded specially-trained and educated teams that our nation selected for the most dangerous and hazardous missions. He conducted operations, many of a sensitive and classified nature, in over fifty-five nations on four continents.

He is a highly decorated combat veteran; having received over twenty awards, including the Bronze Star, earned for his heroic leadership during the Gulf War. He also fought in Somalia, popularized by the movie "Blackhawk Down". He is a Master Parachutist, having made over two-hundred jumps, and has been awarded the foreign parachutist badge from fourteen nations.

For the past eight years Mark has assisted our nation in the Global War on Terror, returning frequently to the Middle East and Asia. He spent 4 months in Iraq and Kuwait in 2006, teaching Counter Insurgency to battle staffs and commanders.

Mark spent 8 years on the faculty of the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth and currently serves as an Adjunct faculty member, teaching 2 leadership courses each semester at Longview College in Lee's Summit, MO. He also teaches Leadership at Johnson County Community College and is called upon often to be a guest lecturer at universities around the U.S., to include KU.

He is the author of two books: "How to Get Anyone to Follow You Anywhere: Green Beret Secrets to Leadership and Team Building"; and his latest, "Lessons in Leadership: Straight Talk from a Green Beret", which former President Bush kept a signed copy in his den at the White House.

Please join me in welcoming Mark Johnson.