

Michael S. Lauler
Fort Belvoir Wounded Warrior Golf Program

Mike enjoys being the guy behind the scenes, but it's hard not to notice Mike's accomplishments and community service. Through assisting with local programs such as the Fort Belvoir Wounded Warrior Golf Program (FBWWGP), raising money for Children's Hospital, or volunteering at his son's schools, Mike cares deeply about his community and his country and generously donates his time and talents to show that one person can make a difference. For that, he is the recipient of the 2015 David Wortman Citizen of the Year Award for his generosity in the community.

Born in Washington, D.C., Mike is the third of six children to parents John and Kathleen. He grew up in the northern Virginia area and graduated from Radford University with a Bachelor of Science in Geography, and from Strayer University with a BS in Accounting. Mike worked for the federal government from 1982 to 1994. He is currently a self-employed Certified Public Accountant focusing on individual and small-business taxation, and also works as an associate real estate broker with Bartlett Realty in Alexandria, Virginia.

Mike has a real passion for the game of golf – both playing it and sharing it. In recent years, Mike has won the “Old Hickory Open” and has won the senior club championship at Fort Belvoir both in 2013 and 2014. He participates in local VSGA, WMGA and USGA events, captains the Ft. Belvoir Men's A-Team and has passed the PGA's Player Ability Test several times. About six years ago, Mike's long-time friend, PGA Professional Steve Greiner, started working with American soldiers and veterans who had been wounded in service to our country. Mike started helping out and realized how meaningful the game of golf can be to the healing process of our wounded warriors and their families. Mike currently is the head Volunteer Coordinator for the FBWWGP.

Mike also has reached out to local Boy Scout troops to facilitate Eagle Scout project opportunities that introduce local youth to the FBWWGP (Mike is an Eagle Scout himself). In one recent project, a young man managed the construction of several storage racks that the FBWWGP uses to sort and store the thousands of golf clubs donated by local golfers and golf clubs.

Mike is also committed to supporting healing, education, and growth of young people. Through various golf events, Mike has raised (or help raised) thousands of dollars for both the MAPGA Scholarship Foundation and Children's Hospital. He also raised and donated thousands of dollars to purchase books for a local elementary school. He currently donates many hours of his time as a booster parent for his son's high school band program.

For 19 years, Mike has been married to his wife Cara. Mike credits his wife's dedication to their family and says that “without her, I could not do many of the things I do.” The couple has a son, Andrew, who is an outstanding student and a very talented musician.

As mentioned, Mike enjoys being the man behind the scenes – he'll be the one whose name tag says “Nobody” because he knows that when he's volunteering his time, it's not about him – even President Obama noticed this on one occasion. Whether it's supporting our troops, transporting musical instruments or working the concession stand at sporting events for the high school band, the world could use more people like Mike who is generous with his heart, his talents, and his time. The MAPGA salutes Mike Lauler for his outstanding accomplishments and involvement in the community.