

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Dave Freeman is an accomplished leader whose career spans decades of dedicated service in both the military and civilian sectors. An Artilleryman for nearly 23 years, Dave's distinguished military career included demanding roles, culminating as a Military Transition Team Chief in Iraq, where he advised an Iraqi General.

Following his service, Dave successfully transitioned into significant operational leadership, holding positions such as Director of Plant Services at Augusta University before joining Flagler Schools as the current Chief of Operations. This lifelong pattern of dedicated service recently led him to complete a rigorous thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail alongside Warrior Expeditions, a non-profit dedicated to supporting combat veterans.

As a fourth-generation servicemember and father to a currently serving soldier, Dave speaks with deep insight into the enduring power of the military network. He will share his journey, discussing how the veteran networks he encountered on the trail provided unexpected support, community, and purpose, demonstrating that the military bond extends far beyond the battlefield.