Mike Fisher '90

Mike Fisher graduated from West Point in 1990, majoring in computer science. Commissioned as an Aviation Officer, he dedicated a decade to active and National Guard service in a variety of roles. Transitioning to the civilian sector, Mike began his career as a software engineer at General Electric. His trajectory in engineering leadership saw him as the VP of Engineering at PayPal and in pivotal roles at Quigo (acquired by AOL) and Etsy, where he served as the Chief Technology Officer.

Together with his classmate Marty Abbott, Mike co-founded AKF Partners, a consultancy specializing in aiding technology firms in scaling operations. They authored dozens of articles and papers and three books that have sold over 25,000 copies and have been translated into five languages. With an expansive career spanning several decades, Mike's leadership has influenced a spectrum of companies, from nascent startups to established public entities. Presently, he lends his expertise as a Senior Advisor to Permira, a leading global investment firm, and as an Executive in Residence at the Veale Institute for Entrepreneurship. He has been selected as a Fulbright Specialist.

A staunch advocate for philanthropy and service, Mike has been integral to numerous non-profit boards, contributing in areas like technology advisement, strategic planning, fundraising, recruitment, and governance. His board affiliations include prominent organizations like the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, which annually mobilizes over $300M for research initiatives. Alongside his family, Mike passionately supports causes such as type 1 diabetes research, veteran education, mental health, and cybersecurity. He currently serves on the West Point Association of Graduates' IT Committee.

In addition to his bachelor's in computer science, Mike holds a master's in information systems from Hawaii Pacific University, an MBA from the Weatherhead School of Management, and a Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University. As an educator and researcher, Mike has taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. He actively mentors and instructs students in group projects, crafting innovative digital solutions for real-world problems using decentralized credential data-sharing technologies.

Mike and his wife are members of the Ulysses S. Grant Lifetime Giving Society, the Cullum Society, and the Superintendent's Circle. They ardently support the upcoming Cyber & Engineering Academic Center. The couple are the proud parents of Spencer and currently reside in Ohio.