

KARL MONGER



Karl Monger is the founder of GallantFew, Inc (www.gallantfew.org). His vision is to reduce veteran unemployment, homelessness, and suicide and to advocate for improved services for veterans. GallantFew accomplishes this by aligning veterans successful in the business world as mentors to soon-to-be veterans leaving active duty; establishing a strong social network that provides professional development, emotional support and physical assistance; providing training and resources for veterans qualified to own their own businesses in the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) federal procurement program; and by educating corporations and agencies on veteran-related employment issues.

GallantFew is a 501(c)3 non-profit that focuses on Special Operations (SOF) veterans, with a recently developed relationship with USSOCOM Care Coalition to assist medically retiring SOF by providing hometown SOF veterans to mentor them through the transition from active duty.

Karl is uniquely qualified to coach veterans entering the SDVOSB program as in 2010 he took ownership of a small business and entered DriPowder, LLC into the SDVOSB program – earning the rare Veteran Administration's Certified Veteran Enterprise (cVe) designation in July 2010. Only around 15% of veteran owned businesses have earned this distinction, which will be required by the VA in 2012 in order to participate in SDVOSB set-aside procurement opportunities. All other federal agencies use the VA cVe as the gold standard in identifying SDVOSB firms for contracts. Karl qualified as a Service-Disabled Veteran when he was injured several times while serving on active duty. He began his military career as an Army ROTC scholarship cadet at Wichita State University where he was designated the Distinguished Military Graduate. He has served as an infantry platoon leader, rifle company commander, and Ranger battalion staff officer, and he parachuted with the 1st Ranger Battalion into Kuwait during a show of force operation in 1991. He holds the retired rank of Major in the US Army Reserves. DriPowder was selected to provide expertise on wounded warrior and care-giver issues for a Department of Defense Warrior Transition Command project in early 2011.

He is a graduate of Ranger, Jumpmaster, Airborne and Air Assault Schools, the Command and General Staff Officers Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Armor Officer Basic Course, the US Air Force Air Ground Operations School, and others. His awards and decorations include two Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medals, SouthWest Asia Service Medal with bronze campaign star, Korea Service Medal, the Expert Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, Senior Parachutist and Air Assault Wings.

Since departing active duty he has held general manager and sales manager leadership positions in several corporations and served as Executive Director of a Big Brothers Big Sisters agency. Besides currently serving as CEO and owner of DriPowder, LLC he also founded GallantFew, Inc. He spends his spare time coaching, mentoring and teaching veterans and advocating for improved veteran services and awareness of veteran issues. DriPowder, LLC is a SDVOSB specializing in soldier support and emergency relief products and services, and business development consulting to the government and to major federal contractors.

Karl is currently the South Central Region Director for the US Army Ranger Association, has served as Chairman of Eastminster Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons, and mentored troubled youth and prison inmates. He also serves on the Sedgwick County Veterans Coalition Task Force where he mentors incarcerated veterans. He hosts an internet talk radio show several times a month (<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/gallantfew>) and recently joined the Kansas Small Business Development Center as a private sector consultant helping Service-Disabled Veterans start small businesses.