

Wes Blackwell

USNA '03

University of Virginia MBA

Angel Investor

Alexandria, VA

Wes Blackwell is an angel investor with a passion for helping military and intelligence veteran led companies succeed. Wes has previously served leadership positions in aviation, education and technology. He is currently a Limited Partner with Scout Ventures and Hivers & Strivers, as well as an Advisor at DataTribe.

At LiveSafe, a mobile technology and SaaS company that crowd sources safety and threat information, Wes led enterprise implementation, account management, and tech support during a hyper growth stage of the company. Before LiveSafe, he oversaw strategy and business development at Jacksonville Jetport, a private equity owned, aviation services company in Jacksonville, FL.

While on active duty Wes flew naval helicopters, completing numerous detachments and combat deployments. He also completed an exchange tour with the British Royal Navy. During this tour he completed operational responsibilities that included leading British detachments flying in support of operations in Afghanistan, Libya, and the Somali Basin. Highlights included deploying as the lone pilot onboard Her Majesty's newest ship's ever combat deployment and being squadron mates with the Prince of Wales. After returning to the United States, Wes helped lead admissions efforts at the U.S. Naval Academy as Director of Marketing and Partnerships. Furthermore, he taught semester long aviation and leadership courses at USNA.

Wes is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a degree in Economics. He has also completed his MBA from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia.

Wes is passionate about veterans' issues and serves as an Ambassador for the Travis Manion Foundation and is a past veteran representative on the "Young Leader's Board" for the American Diabetes Association. He is also a volunteer ski instructor at the Far West Disabled Sports Center, teaching ski clinics to the disabled and wounded warriors.