

Mike Schlappi

Motivational Speaker, Gold Medalist, Author

Please contact a GDA agent for information.

Topics

- Courage / Heroism
- Disability Rights
- Family / Relationships
- Inspiration / Achievement
- Olympics
- Overcoming Adversity

About Mike Schlappi

Lying on a bed paralyzed, with a bullet hole in his chest, Mike promised that if he survived, he would share his unique story all over the world and help as many people as he could. This is happening!

Mike knows that the most important part of any meeting or organization is the people. Whether speaking to a global financial corporation or a community medical facility, he has seen their results change when the beliefs of their people change. He inspires real people, with real problems, to respond differently; teaching that attitude is not a mood, but a position we take regardless of circumstances. That is his specialty!

Obviously Mike has had a few challenges in his life. But he also has a few Olympic gold medals, a few college degrees, has written a few books, runs a few successful businesses, has a few passions and has a few kids (five to be exact). This is all possible because he "walks the talk" (or rolls the scroll).



Some of Mike's most requested industries are:

Financial Institutions - Mike has a strong background in the financial services industry. He has his life, health and securities licenses, has his MBA, and recently was a main platform speaker at the "Million Dollar Round Table"; all of which give him credibility when speaking to an audience in the financial fields.

Healthcare - Mike has a background in Healthcare - His personal experiences with nurses, doctors and therapists not only saved his life, but also pointed him to a career in healthcare. He served as the Director of Rehabilitation for Intermountain Healthcare in Salt Lake City for 10 years, giving him credibility with audiences in the healthcare arena.

Sales/Corporations - Mike's message is a perfect fit for both large and small corporations who are forced to make changes to adapt and thrive in today's shifting world. Through entertaining and personal stories, Mike teaches: If you resist change - you fail. If you accept change - you survive. If you create change - you succeed!

Safety - Mike's story is a moving and powerful example of the importance of safety. At the age of 15 Mike was shot in the chest, by a friend, at point blank range; paralyzing 2/3 of his body. Mike faces challenges daily because of the split second decision that was made in regards to safety or the lack thereof. His compelling message changes the way people think about carelessness and the magnitude of their decisions in the work place.

Education - Mike comes from a family of professional educators. He taught Liberal Arts at Arizona State University while earning his MBA. More importantly, the core of Mike's presentation pivots around the support he received from his friends, teachers, and family as he put his life back together.

Select Keynotes

- "If You Can't Stand Up, Stand Out"

At the age of 15 Mike was shot in the chest, by a friend, at point blank range; paralyzing 2/3 of his body. Mike faces challenges daily because of a split second decision. Using humor and real life experiences Mike is able to help his attendees look within - To find what paralyzes them individually; perhaps not stemming from their spine but in their heart and mind. He asks them what position they are taking relative to their problems and to take personal responsibility for their own lives.

Select Book Titles

- **2009:** Shot Happens

Select Testimonials

By sharing the challenges that he had faced head-on in his life, Mike did a masterful job of instilling within each employee a determination to over-come business obstacles that pale in significance to those faced and conquered by Mike.

– *Alan Rudd, President & CEO, VINCA, the data protection company*

To offer a simple recommendation for Mike Schlappi is an understatement. Mike's genuine, honest and professional approach is head and shoulders above many of the speakers that I've heard. Motivational speakers can sometimes be one-dimensional in terms of their content and delivery. Mike's 'shoot for the stars' message appeals to a multitude of issues that face an organization.

– *Christopher S. Carlton, President, Dräger Medical, Inc.*

Mike Schlappi was an engaging and motivating speaker! Our team thoroughly enjoyed his talk and felt inspired afterward.

– *GDA Client*

It was a great honor and a wonderful experience meeting Mike Schlappi today. My thanks to the Leadership team for arranging this.

– *GDA Client*

Mike was FANTASTIC!! What a treat to have him. Our group loved him. He was so personable and had a really great message.

– *GDA Client*

Mike's keynote is so moving and inspirational. He is such an engaging presenter and brings so much hope within his message. His story is about forgiveness and courage as well. His outlook on life is incredibly motivating!

– *GDA Employee*

In my 20 years of coordinating meetings, I am hard-pressed to identify a speaker that I have worked with that is as cooperative and effective. Thanks for working with us to make the Descartes Global Sales Meeting successful. It was a compelling and heart-rendering performance that will be remembered for years to come.

– *Lora Cecere Descartes, Systems Group*

Your keynote speech was extremely well received. In fact, on a majority of my overall conference evaluations, you were listed as 'the best part of the conference.' That, coupled with the standing ovation my clients gave you, speaks volumes about how well the program went. Thank YOU!

– *Lori K. Bennett, Director of Marketing Communications, PARADIGM TECHNOLOGIES*

Mike Schlappi's life teaches anyone who has ever thought that the mountain was too high, or the valley was too wide, that the will of the human heart can conquer all obstacles. Mike's story is a story of heart, commitment, and valiant perseverance. He is a role model to all and a real hero.

– *Orrin Hatch – United States Senator*

I think we've all heard motivational speakers before, but your message was so personal that we could all feel the power you generated. It's easy

to see why you received a standing ovation and such enthusiastic applause at the conclusion of your message. It all had to do with your unconquerable spirit and attitude. Your challenges left all of us with a desire to do more.

– *Ray Rivers, Vice President, E'OLA International*