



Biography

DR. DAMON FRIEDMAN

Air Force Lt. Col. Damon Friedman is a warrior with a passion for helping other warriors after they return home from combat.

In 2011, he and his wife, Dayna, established Shield of Faith (SOF) Missions, a non-profit organization that strives “to support warriors who struggle with post-traumatic stress and provide them with the tools to overcome the negative impacts of combat.” SOF Missions has served an estimated 65,000 people through various projects.



Friedman, who is still on active duty, is the executive producer of “Surrender Only to One,” a faith-based film documenting the true stories of elite warriors.

Along with the film, SOF Missions established The Surrender Project, a three-step holistic program dedicated to helping veterans battle PTSD and find their true purpose after combat.

Friedman received his commission in 2000 as an officer in the Marine Corps. After five years, he transferred to Air Force Special Ops and served four combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He has won three Bronze Stars and the Air Force Combat Action Medal.

In April 2010, Friedman earned a Bronze Star with valor for his role as a special tactics officer directing air support during an operation in the Korengal Valley, nicknamed the “Valley of Death,” in Afghanistan. The medal citation said that for seven days, often under hostile fire, he maneuvered to exposed positions to improve the coordination of more than 200 attack aircraft. No Americans died, and more than 40 members of the Taliban were killed or wounded.

Friedman was born and raised in downtown Los Angeles. After a troubled childhood, he took an oath to change the trajectory of his life. A Junior Olympian in track and field, he ran the 800 meters in college as an undergraduate at Lewis University. He earned master's degrees at the University of Oklahoma and Liberty University and a doctorate in intercultural studies at Fuller Theological Seminary.

He and his wife have two children and live in Florida.