

GuardianU

Speaking Out for Safety



Dave was born and raised in small town Pennsylvania (York, PA to be exact). His childhood was similar to what most of us experience; no harsh encounters with violence. He was raised to be a non-violent person and was taught to look for the best in people. His perspective was altered when he moved to attend college in Philadelphia, Pa. Being thrust into an urban environment he learned that violence can happen anywhere, anytime and especially to anyone. As a result of a firsthand experience, Dave knew he had to learn how to protect himself but did not know where to start. He faced a moral cross-roads, he did (and still does) not believe in hurting people, but recognizes that the need to protect yourself by any means necessary is sometimes the only option.

He discovered that certain martial arts were designed to protect the victim and not harm the aggressor. He was drawn to this concept and began studying Yoshinkan Aikido and within several years of training was asked by his sensei (teacher) to start his own school (dojo) in 1991. Honored by this request he obliged his teacher and it was at that point where he started to learn about other people's need to be trained in self protection.

Throughout the years Dave has become a perpetual apprentice in the Martial Arts. In addition to being a certified Aikido instructor he has also invested significant time learning the Samurai arts (one of Aikido's early influences) and Systema (a Russian combat methodology that trains people in all forms of combat). Additionally Dave has trained in Krav Maga, Judo, Jiu-Jitsu, American Kenpo, low-light tactics and Surefire Institutes Executive Self-Defense course. He has been privileged to train people from all walks of life including those whose jobs are dangerous in nature such as: Special Forces, Law Enforcement, Nurses, Prison Guards and Psychiatric Wards Workers.

Today Dave is a professional speaker, author and instructor. He travels the nation conducting keynotes, workshops and seminars that train others about their own personal sense of value, awakens their innate gifts and reduces their personal risk of violence in an increasingly violent world.

“The ability to protect yourself is only as good as how you view yourself.”