



# Volunteer of the Month

## August 2016

*Mike Morehouse*



Mike Morehouse is the Buddy-to-Buddy Program's August 2016 Volunteer of the Month! Mike first trained into the program in February of 2013 and then re-trained in February of this year. As an at-large volunteer not assigned to an armory, Mike assists many student veterans at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, where he is a Success Advocate/Veteran Services Coordinator.

Mike worked in the KVCC student veteran office as a work study employee before graduating from school there and accepting the position of Success Advocate/Veteran Services Coordinator in that office full-time. While he was doing work study, he was offered the opportunity to train into Buddy-to-Buddy with his

co-workers and seized it, recognizing how it would be an excellent complement to his work there and as the president of the school's Student Veterans of America chapter.

There are roughly 300 student veterans at KVCC, and Mike has personally assisted over 100 of them in just the past six months with issues including education and benefits and claims. Of his work with Buddy-to-Buddy, Mike says, "It's humbling to be able to help people in a time of need."

Mike served in the Michigan Army National Guard for six years as a Cavalry Scout and deployed to Iraq. After he separated from the National Guard, he began his studies at KVCC and earned an Associate of Arts there. He is now attending Spring Arbor University, working on a Bachelor of Science in Business Organization and Management. He is a proud member of the Decatur VFW post and will soon begin volunteering with the new veterans treatment court in Kalamazoo County.

When Mike's not working, studying, or volunteering, he enjoys spending as much time as possible with his wife and three children and playing golf whenever he gets the chance.

**Thank you for commitment to serving fellow student veterans, Mike!**