

2025 Alumnus of the Year – Mark Lanspa '80

Mark Lanspa is a seasoned real estate finance professional with more than four decades of experience. A native of Omaha, Nebraska, he is the eldest of three children of Barbara and Donald Lanspa. He attended St. Robert's and Mount Michael Benedictine, graduating in 1980, before earning an accounting degree from Georgetown University and an MBA from Columbia Business School.

After Georgetown, Mark moved to New York City to launch his career in real estate finance. He has held senior roles at GE Real Estate, Goldman Sachs, and Credit Suisse. For the past 13 years, he has been Co-Head of the Hospitality Finance Group within Wells Fargo's Corporate & Investment Bank, leading a team that provides financing to the lodging and leisure sectors. Known for his hands-on approach, he brings a deep understanding of hotel operations — from occupancy rates to renovation costs — into his work.



Mark and his partner of 30 years, Greg Scarffe, share a love of travel and adventure. They have explored every continent, from the glaciers of Tierra del Fuego to the monasteries of Bhutan and the black sand beaches of Antarctica. Mark's favorite ways to explore — hiking and biking — also double as his daily commute in New York, where he cycles instead of taking the subway.

A strong advocate for service, Mark has long volunteered with God's Love We Deliver, supporting individuals with serious illnesses. He is also a founding member and past President of the Real Estate Lenders Association and serves as Vice Chairman of the Hotel Development Council at the Urban Land Institute.

Mark's life and career are guided by a spirit of hospitality and service, values deeply rooted in his Benedictine education. He welcomes connection and conversation, especially with those who share his passions for real estate, travel, and community engagement.