# WALDO WALDMAN

*Fighter Pilot • NYT & WSJ Bestselling Author • Leadership Expert*

*Author of* ***Commit, Commit! Break the Fear Barrier, Crush Uncertainty, and Live a Life of Courage***




***What does, "Commit, Commit!" mean?***
***"Every fighter pilot knows the moment. Once you pass a certain point on the runway, there is no turning back."***

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## ABOUT WALDO

Lt. Col. (ret.) Waldo Waldman, known as "The Wingman," is a decorated U.S. Air Force fighter pilot who learned to manage debilitating claustrophobia and fear while continuing to fly, ultimately completing 65 combat missions over Iraq and the Balkans. Today, he is a Hall of Fame keynote speaker, *New York Times* bestselling author, and leadership expert who has spent more than two decades helping organizations and leaders perform, lead, and make high-stakes decisions under pressure and uncertainty.

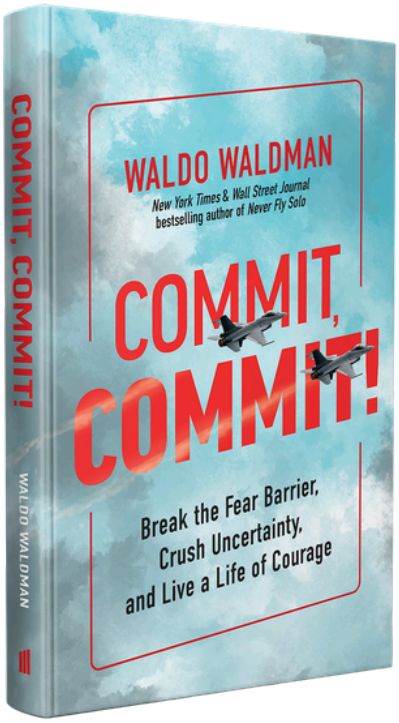
In combat, Waldo learned that waiting for certainty is rarely an option and that hesitation can be more dangerous than an imperfect decision. His own journey taught him that courage is not the absence of fear, but the decision to move forward despite it. He now brings those lessons to leaders and organizations navigating change and making tough decisions.

A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy with an MBA in Organizational Behavior, Waldo has built a career translating lessons from the cockpit into practical strategies for leadership, teamwork, trust, and performance. He is the author of the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller *Never Fly Solo* and has delivered more than 1,700 keynote presentations for organizations including UPS, ExxonMobil, John Deere, Siemens, Honeywell, Johnson & Johnson, and Merck.

Through his speaking, writing, coaching, and leadership programs, Waldo challenges people to stop waiting for confidence or certainty before taking action. His philosophy is simple: courage begins with commitment, high performance requires preparation and trust, and nobody succeeds alone.

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# ABOUT THE BOOK

## *COMMIT, COMMIT!*

***Break the Fear Barrier, Crush Uncertainty, and Live a Life of Courage***

**November 17, 2026 | Amplify Publishing**

What if confidence isn't what allows us to act, but what we earn by acting before we feel ready?

In *Commit, Commit! Break the Fear Barrier, Crush Uncertainty, and Live a Life of Courage,* former fighter pilot Lt. Col. (ret.) Waldo Waldman challenges one of our most persistent assumptions about courage: that we need to overcome fear, find confidence, or achieve certainty before making a move.

Drawing on 65 combat missions, his unlikely journey from a claustrophobic young man afraid of heights to an F-16 fighter pilot, and more than two decades advising leaders and organizations, Waldo argues that courage begins much earlier. It begins with commitment.

*Commit, Commit!* explores why capable people hesitate, how fear disguises itself as preparation and perfectionism, and why waiting until we feel completely ready can keep us grounded indefinitely. Waldo introduces practical strategies for making decisions with incomplete information, preparing to perform under pressure, building self-trust through action, knowing when persistence becomes counterproductive, and surrounding ourselves with the "wingmen" we need to succeed.

At a time when leaders, entrepreneurs, and professionals are navigating rapid technological change, workplace disruption, economic uncertainty, and relentless pressure to make the right decision, *Commit, Commit!* offers a different approach: prepare relentlessly, trust what you've built, make the call, and move.

Fear doesn't disappear when we commit. We just stop letting it make the decision.

# DISCUSSION TOPICS

- The Fighter Pilot Who Was Secretly Terrified: What We Get Wrong About Courage
- The Confidence Myth: Stop Waiting Until You Feel Ready
- Are You Making a C-17 Decision or an F-16 Decision?
- Why "Follow Your Passion" Is Bad Advice
- When Quitting Is Actually the Courageous Decision
- Wingmen Never Wing It: Why Preparation Beats Talent Under Pressure
- Why High Performers Choke Under Pressure: They Haven't Earned Their Own Trust
- Your Employees Don't Need More Motivation. They Need a Mission.

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## ADVANCE PRAISE

"This isn't just a book. It's a training companion to break through your fears, commit to your mission, and create amazing success. Waldo was born to write this book, and you were meant to read it!"
***JON GORDON, nineteen-time bestselling author of Training Camp and The Power of Positive Habit.***

"I've watched Waldo's message land with our UPS sales team, from the front line to our senior leadership, and seen the difference it makes when people choose courage over comfort. In Commit, Commit!, he turns those same principles into a proven approach for leading through uncertainty, making tough decisions, and taking action before all the answers are clear. Whether you're building a team, transforming a business, or pushing yourself to perform at the next level, this book will challenge you to lead boldly and 'Never Fly Solo.'"
***MATT GUFFEY, Chief Commercial and Strategy Officer, UPS.***

"The gap between what we know and what we do is where most growth opportunities are lost. Most leaders already know what to do. They just haven't committed to it yet. Commit, Commit! closes that gap."
***DR. MARSHALL GOLDSMITH, Thinkers50 #1 Executive Coach and New York Times bestselling author of The Earned Life, Triggers, and What Got You Here Won't Get You There.***

## CONNECT

***Connect with Waldo Waldman:***

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