

Evelyn M. Zohlen, CFP®

PRESIDENT, INSPIRED FINANCIAL

“My own life-changing transition inspired me to start Inspired Financial so that I could help other women and their families navigate their difficult life transitions and emerge confident, financially secure and empowered to deal with future life events.”



Evelyn M. Zohlen, founder of Inspired Financial, has served on both the personal and the institutional sides of financial services for nearly 20 years. She received her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas, her Master of Science from the Joint Military Intelligence College, and her Master of Business Administration (with a concentration in Finance/Portfolio Management) from Villanova University. Prior to founding Inspired Financial, Evelyn was a Relationship Manager at The Vanguard Group in Malvern, PA where she was the trusted advisor for clients with retirement plan assets ranging from \$175 million to \$500 million.

Evelyn is a Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP®) professional and serves as Chair for the Financial Planning Association (the membership association for CFP® professionals with 23,000 members!). She served as President for the Financial Planning Association in 2019. She was an adjunct professor in the Personal Financial Planning Program at the University of California at Irvine and serves on the Advisory Board for the Center for Investment and Wealth Management at UCI. In addition, she is a community leader who currently serves on the Board of Governors for the premier business club in Orange County, the Center Club. She has served on the Board of Directors for WomanSage, the Board of Directors for the American Poetry Review, and the President’s Council at Immaculata University. Evelyn is a frequent contributor to periodicals such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Journal of Financial Planning*, *USA Today*, *Investment News*, *Kiplinger’s Personal Finance*, *Real Simple* and *Consumer Reports*. Prior to entering the financial services profession, Evelyn served as an intelligence officer in the United States Air Force.

Evelyn is married to the fabulous Mark Prendergast who shares her passion for food, wine, running (it counters the food and wine), reading and travel. Her perfect vacation combines great food/wine before and/or after a race while visiting their three terrific kids and their spouses. Good times!

Fun Facts:

- During my service as a US Air Force intelligence officer, I had the thrill of “taking the stick” of an F-16 fighter jet during a nighttime mission.
- I ran a marathon (in costume!) with Mark in Bordeaux, France that included 23 Grand Cru wine tastings along the course.
- My favorite volunteer activity is providing pro bono financial planning for low-income women and their families. I rarely pass up an opportunity to help these ladies.
- I love public speaking—the bigger the crowd, the better! My largest “gig” so far was to an audience of nearly 3,000.