
JAKE OLSON

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AWARDS

2010 Dick Vitale Award

2010 ESPN College Sports Media Award- special feature Jake Olson

2014 Distinguished Athletic Award for Orange County

2015 Skip Wohl Cancer for College Award

2016 Lifelock Courage Award

2016 Uplifting Athletes Rare Disease Champion

2017 USC Davis-Teschke Most Inspirational Award

2017 Honorary Lott Impact Trophy

2017 Pac-12 special teams player of the week

2018 ESPN Sports Emmy- special feature Jake Olson

2018 USC Football Chris Carlisle Courage Award

HISTORY

Jake Olson is 21 years old, a resident of Huntington Beach, California and a senior at the University of Southern California. When Jake was 8 months old, he was diagnosed with a rare form of eye cancer, retinoblastoma. The disease claimed his left eye at 10 months old and in November 2009 Jake lost his right eye after battling the cancer for 12 years. Jake confronted many challenges and encountered many setbacks during his battle and loss of sight but remained strong through his faith in God. He has used his experience to inspire and motivate others by authoring two books, creating a non-profit foundation to help visually impaired children and support cancer research and by sharing his story openly as a motivational speaker. Jake is also a life-long USC football fan. While in high school he learned to long snap and was the starting long snapper for his team his junior and senior year. After being accepted to USC, he was offered a walk on spot with the USC football team and had his first opportunity to snap in a live collegiate game on September 2, 2017 and was named the Pac-12 special teams player of the week. He then had his second opportunity to snap in his first Pac-12 game on October 7, 2017.

EDUCATION

Currently attending the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business as a senior

2019 Walter Camp Football
Foundation Perseverance Award

AUTHORED BOOKS

“My Life with Cancer Holding
Jesus’ Hand”, 2005
“Open Your Eyes”, 2013

PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER

Jake has been honored to share
his story for many organizations
including Dick Vitale’s 5th Annual
V Foundation for Cancer
Research, Fellowship of Christian
Athletes National Event, Guide
Dogs for the Blind, Blind
Children’s Centers across
America and was a special guest
on College Game Day, Good
Morning America and The Harry
Show.

NON-PROFIT/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Out of Sight Faith Foundation- Founder and Board Member 2010
Know The Glow Vision Center (Children’s Hospital Los Angeles)-
Honorary Board Member
Tee Off For Dogs- Honorary Board Member
Team Impact Volunteer
Swim With Mike Volunteer

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

Golf
Guitar
Surfing
Skiing
Poker
Weight lifting

DID YOU KNOW?

1. I’m the first blind long snapper to play for a DI school
2. I play golf and hope to be the first blind golfer to play in the PGA
3. My foundation has raised over \$100,000 to help cancer research, research to help eradicate eye diseases and provide technology to the visually impaired

FUN FACTS

1. I have a twin sister
2. I love to surf
3. I went sky diving when I turned 18 with my twin sister