



Sport: Powerlifting
Hometown: Normal, IL
Age: 37

1. How long have you been with Special Olympics?

I have been in competing Special Olympics since I was nine. I have competed in basketball, volleyball, bocce, soccer, cross country skiing, track and field, softball, and bowling. I'm also a Global Messenger—I love talking to groups!

2. How has Special Olympics changed your life?

Special Olympics changed my life by offering sports and helping me set goals. I have enjoyed the social aspect and always having something to excel in. I also enjoy being accepted included.

3. What has been your biggest obstacle to overcome?

Participating in basketball and softball with poor vision.

4. What makes you most proud?

Doing my best.

5. What are some other accomplishments you are proud of?

I'm proud of being a Global messenger. I'm also working on two certificates at Heartland Community College. I hope to finish this year and land a job in accounting or bookkeeping.

6. What other interests or hobbies do you have?

Yes, I volunteer at the Midwest Food Bank and have worked in a few food pantries. I enjoy walking, running, and gaming. I also compete in powerlifting events outside of Special Olympics.



7. Who do you admire most and why?

I admire John Cena, Mark Wahlberg, Ozzie Guillen, Michael Jordan, Scotty Pippen, and Tony Kukoc.

8. What does attending USA Games mean to you?

I am just so excited to compete Summer and Winter games have been such a highlight of each year and now I am finally going to compete at the next level.

9. How are you preparing/training for USA Games?

Training, training, training! I train three times a week year round.

10. Have you been to a World Games or USA Games before?

No

11. Are you employed? If so, where at and what's your role?

I am about to start an internship.

12. Are you a currently a student? If so, where and is it a Unified Champion School?

I am at Heartland Community College.

