



Credit: Molly Thoma

# Katie Uhlaender

Skeleton  
Three-Time Olympian  
Two-time World Cup Champion  
22-Time World Cup Medalist  
World Champion



*In Depth...*

Growing up the daughter of famous Major League Baseball outfielder and Cleveland Indians coach, Ted Uhlaender, Katie dreamed following in her father’s footsteps as a professional athlete. As an ‘old school’ ballplayer, Ted drilled athletic toughness into her head and that nothing would come easy.

Katie indeed followed in her father’s footsteps and her journey led her to the sport of Skeleton and speeding down mountains at high speeds chasing that elusive Olympic Medal. She has since become a three-time Olympian, two-time World Cup Champion, 22-time World Cup Medalist and World Champion. But, just as her father taught her, none of this would come easy, as Katie has had to overcome incredible heartbreak and debilitating injuries en route to becoming one of the best Skeleton athletes in the world.

In February of 2009, Katie lost her beloved father to Multiple Myeloma and she was devastated. Left with a big void, Katie was in a tough place and subsequently wrecked a snowmobile in April of 2009. She shattered her kneecap, which required four major surgeries to fix. Uncertain if she would be able to compete in the 2010 Olympic Games, Katie tackled her recovery head on and qualified for the 2010 Olympic Games.

Finishing a disappointing 11<sup>th</sup> place finish in Vancouver, Katie vowed to rebound and went on to win the 2012 Women’s World Championship. Well on her way to the podium in Sochi, Katie suffered another serious injury – a severe concussion. Another unexpected challenge, Katie rose the challenge with aggressive therapy and was primed for a medal run in Sochi and redemption.

Then, it came down to four-hundredths of a second. That is all that kept Katie from finishing on the Olympic podium and achieving her lifelong dream of winning an Olympic Medal. Another tough pill to swallow, Katie’s Olympic dream did not end there and she picked herself back up, just as she had done numerous times before. Just as her dad had taught her.

With the 2018 Olympic Games on the near horizon, Katie is prepared for another run at an Olympic medal. Having taken some time away from Skeleton to pursue Track Cycling, Katie is back with a vengeance.



**Hometown:** Vail, CO  
**Current Residence:** Austin, Tx  
**DOB:** July 17, 1984  
**Height:** 5’3”  
**Weight:** 135 lbs

## What Else?

- Katie competed in the 2012 U.S. Olympic Weightlifting Trials. Despite it being only her third weightlifting competition, Katie faced off against the top U.S. weightlifters.
- Katie raises cattle on her family's farm in northwestern Kansas. She is proud to be a farmer and loves the camaraderie and the community support.
- In January of 2014, Katie was featured in US Weekly's collector's edition titled, "American Heroes 2014 Olympics."
- During the 2014 Olympic Games, Yahoo labeled Katie as, 'Sochi's Coolest Athlete'
- Despite just missing out on a medal at the 2014 Olympic Games, Katie emerged as one of the stars. Her compelling story was featured in countless media outlets and print pieces and captivated millions.
- Katie has also participated in Track Cycling and moved to Dallas, TX in 2015 to pursue a position in the women's team sprint.
- Katie is highly active on social media and routinely shares about her life on and off the track



For more information about

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