



Tucker Dupree
Limitless Vision

Four-time Paralympic Medalist
Motivational Speaker



Tucker Dupree

Four-time Paralympic Medalist
Three-time Paralympian

Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina

Birth date: May 11, 1989

Disability: Blind / Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON)

Points of Interest:

- At 17, Tucker began to lose his vision and was diagnosed with a rare disease - Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON). In a short period of time, he lost 80% of his central vision in both eyes.
- An accomplished swimmer, Tucker continued to compete setting the American record in the 50m and 100m butterfly events. In the spring of 2014, Tucker broke the world record in the 50m backstroke and has his sights set on the 100m backstroke world record in 2015.
- Tucker holds 9 American and Pan-American records.
- At the 2012 London Paralympic Games, Tucker won a silver medal in the 100m backstroke and bronze medals in the 50m freestyle and 100m freestyle. In Rio, Tucker represented the US winning another bronze medal.
- The Rio Games was his third Paralympic Games having previously competed in Beijing in 2008 and London in 2012.
- Tucker is an assistant swim coach with dare2tri, a Chicago-based non-profit organization that supports athletes with physical and visual disabilities in the sport of triathlon.
- When not training, Tucker plays piano, does yoga, enjoys running along Chicago's lake front and loves cooking.



Tucker grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina. He led the life of a typical teenager; playing sports, learning to cook at his first job, learning to drive and playing the piano.

At 17, Tucker woke up one morning and realized he could not see out of his left eye. He went about his day hoping this was a temporary situation, but it was not and over the course of four months, he also began losing vision in his right eye.

Tucker was diagnosed with a rare disease called Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON). In a short period of time, he lost 80% of his central vision in both eyes.

Doctors told him his life would never be "normal." He was determined not to let this disability define him. He quickly returned to the pool, and to the sport he loved. With more to prove than ever before, he was determined to make his life not only "normal," but extraordinary.

While attending the Governor Morehead School for the Blind in 2007, Tucker was introduced to the Paralympics when he was connected to a future USA teammate, Lex Gillette. Less than one year later Tucker marched in the Opening Ceremony of the 2008 Paralympic Games representing Team USA in Beijing, China.

At the 2012 London Paralympic Games, Tucker brought home a silver medal in the 100m backstroke and bronze medals in the 50m freestyle and 100m freestyle events.

Tucker is regarded as one of the top blind swimmers in America holding world records in the 50m and 100m butterfly events and 50m backstroke, 9 American and Pan-American records. He is also a multiple-time national and world champion.

Tucker's dream of representing his country in 3 Paralympic Games and bringing home a medal has come true.



Out of the pool, Tucker is a student at DeVry University, working toward his Bachelor's degree in Communications and Marketing with a specialization in Emerging Technology. While tackling school and training, he also gives back to the future generation of Paralympians as an assistant swim coach for dare2tri, a community-based triathlon club open to any athlete with physical and visual disabilities.

Tucker also enjoys playing piano and cooking. These are hobbies he loved prior to becoming visually impaired and has continued to enjoy them.

Tucker is an accomplished speaker and shares his story of overcoming life's challenges, achieving his dreams in and out of the pool, and his journey to compete on the world's stage.



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