



ROBERT PAYLOR

Biography

Full Bio:

In one moment, Robert Paylor was experiencing the pinnacle of athletic achievement, competing for the collegiate rugby national championship. In the next moment, his life took an unexpected and devastating turn. Robert suffered a severe spinal cord injury due to foul play, leaving him unable to move or feel anything below his neck. His doctor's prognosis was grim: he would never walk or move his hands for the rest of his life.

Even in the face of tremendous adversity, Robert maintained the drive to reclaim his life, but his challenges had only just begun. His rehabilitation journey began with battling spinal fusion surgery, pneumonia, and an inability to swallow, losing 60 pounds in only one month. He had to re-learn almost every basic human function, from feeding himself, to getting dressed, to brushing his teeth.

Rather than let this tragedy define him, Robert used it as a catalyst for an extraordinary journey of redefining what is possible. Through an unbreakable vision and years of relentless determination, Robert can now walk 400 yards, he stood to receive his diploma from UC Berkeley's top-ranked Haas School of Business, and is sharing the mental tools that have helped him persevere through paralysis as an inspirational speaker.

Robert's story has captivated millions around the world, being shared by major outlets including Sports Illustrated, People Magazine, Fox News, and The San Francisco Chronicle. As a sought-after speaker, his message has stirred leading Fortune 500 companies like Visa, Intel, Samsung, Accenture, Edward Jones, and Meta, as well as collegiate and professional sports teams, schools, and associations around the country.

Everyone is paralyzed by something, whether it be mental, emotional, or organizational. In his keynote, Paralyzed to Powerful, Robert authentically relives his journey with the audience and shares the invaluable tools that he gained in overcoming quadriplegia. His message stirs organizations and individuals to both identify and conquer that which paralyzes them by cultivating purpose in their work, fully accessing the collective resilience of their team, developing a reflexive sense of gratitude, and maintaining positivity through even the most daunting challenges.

Short Bio:

Robert Paylor was paralyzed from the neck down during the collegiate rugby national championship after a spinal cord injury left him with a prognosis that he would never walk nor move his hands again. Refusing to accept this prognosis, Robert embarked on an extraordinary journey of recovery, re-learning life's most basic functions and defying the odds to walk again. Now an inspirational speaker and resilience expert, Robert shares his powerful story and the mental tools that helped him overcome quadriplegia with organizations worldwide. Through his keynote, Paralyzed to Powerful, Robert inspires audiences to conquer what "paralyzes" them and turn their adversity into triumph.

Links:

- Website: <https://www.robertpaylor.com/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rob.paylor/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RobertPaylor5>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/robertpaylor5>
- LinkedIn: <http://linkedin.com/in/robert-paylor>
- TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@rob.paylor>