



Jim Abbott

Jim Abbott has battled the odds his entire life.

Jim is the famed one-handed major league baseball player who overcame a birth defect of only one hand. Abbott beat the odds and became an amazing professional baseball player who pitched a no-hitter for the New York Yankees in 1993.

As a member of Team USA in 1987, he became the first American pitcher in 25 years to beat a Cuban team on Cuban soil. The team won a silver medal at the Pan-American Games and Abbott won the U.S. Baseball Federation's prestigious Golden Spikes award as the best amateur baseball player in the country. He was also the first baseball player to win the Sullivan Award as the nation's most outstanding amateur athlete in all sports.

At the 1988 Olympics, Abbott was the winning pitcher in a 5-3 victory over Japan which helped the United States earn its first gold medal in baseball.

Drafted by the California Angels in 1989, Abbott earned a spot as a starting pitcher at the major league level without spending a day in the minors. He won a remarkable 12 games in his rookie season.

Jim Abbott is an inspiration to all who have met him, competed against him or those who have heard him speak. He learned to overcome adversity to reach the pinnacle of success at the highest level of his profession.

Through his stories, anecdotes, jokes, some self deprecation, even failure and pain, Jim's presentations show that people CAN overcome adversity, limitations and disability to reach their dreams. His message uses many sports anecdotes, but is 100% appreciated and loved by even those who are not sports fans.

Jim Abbott was born with one hand...and a very large heart!

