

While his end was truly tragic, Joe Delaney has shown the world what true heroism and compassion is. He didn't know how to swim but that didn't stop him from trying to save lives. His legacy will live on to inspire more people to be like him and make the world a better place. He truly was Great with a capital "G".

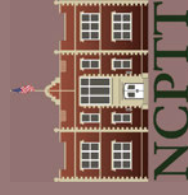


GREAT WITH A CAPITAL "G"

JOE DELANEY

Written and Illustrated by: Camille Burks

This zine is brought to you by:

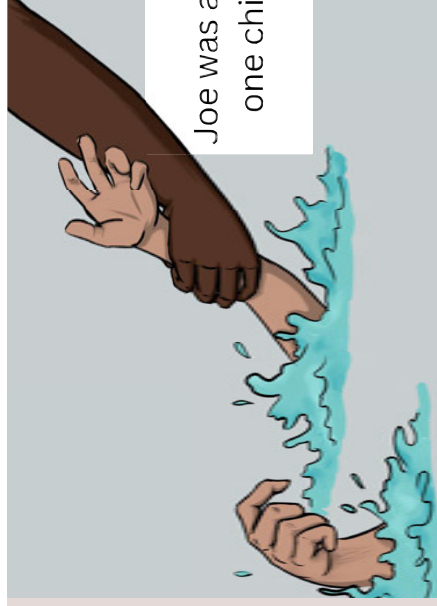
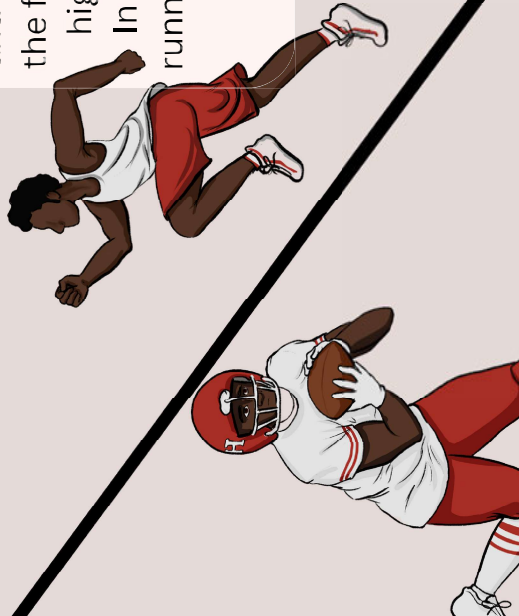




Joe Delaney was born in into a loving family of eight children in 1958. They were a hard-working family, and everyone supported each other. Even as a child, Joe would help out as much as he could on his family's farm.

H

Later he attended Haughton Highschool where he began to play football. During his junior year he became a wide receiver and a sprinter in track. He was the fastest athlete in all of the high schools in Louisiana. In 1976 he set a record by running a 100 yard dash in 9.4 seconds.



Joe was able to grab onto the arm of one child and pull him to safety.

He was also able to pull the second child out as well. But it was too late, the child would later die in the hospital.

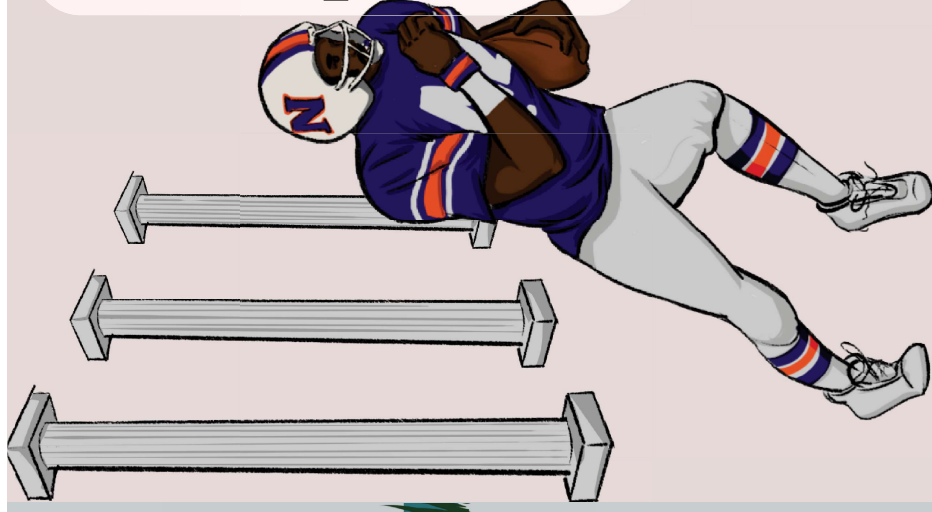
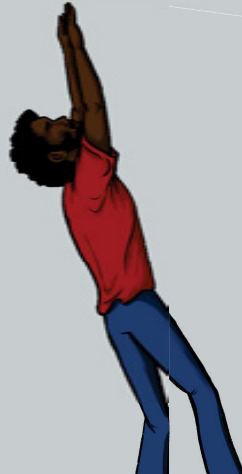


Joe Delaney then went back for the third child. However Joe and the third child would drown before anyone else could get them.

June 29th, 1983; Joe Delaney was at Chennault Park in Monroe, Louisiana sitting on a bench. There were three boys wading in the shallow end of the pond. Then in a split second all three disappeared underneath the water.



Joe Delaney rushed over and dove in after them in an attempt to rescue them. But he didn't know how to swim. That didn't matter to Joe Delaney. He saw kids in trouble and was willing to risk everything to save them.



After he graduated high school, Joe attended Northwestern State University from 1977 to 1980. Where he played running back. During his time at college he rushed more than 2,600 total yards and 21 touchdowns. He also continued doing track in college where he and his relay team set a state record of 39.32 seconds.



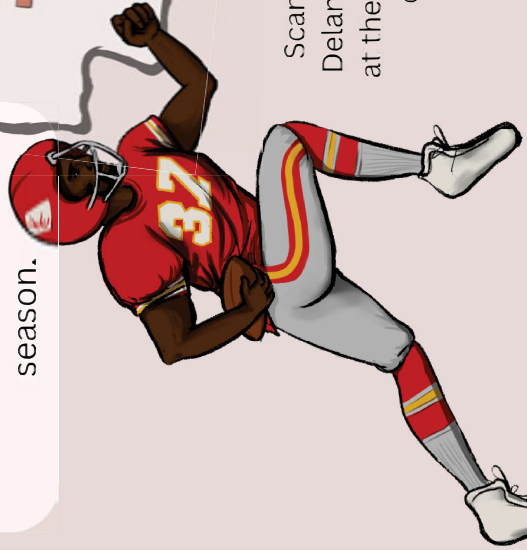
Northwestern State University is also where Joe Delaney met Carolyn Dudley. The two would soon marry in 1978. They would also go on and start a family of three girls.

Scan QR code to check out 3D scan of Joe Delaney's memorial, located at Northwestern State University!



Once he set all of these records while attending Northwestern State University, he was selected in the second round of picks for the Kansas Chiefs for the 1981 draft.

While on the Chief's team, Delaney earned the AFC Rookie of the year with 234 carries, three rushing scores, and 1,121 yards. He also earned a trip to the Pro Bowl. All within two seasons. He was even guaranteed to be accepted to another season.



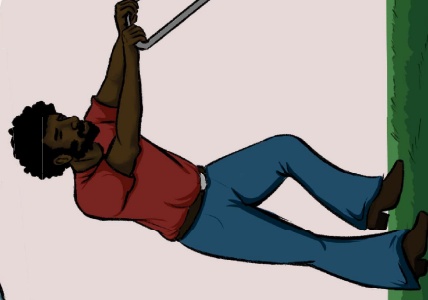
Scan QR code to see Joe Delaney's amazing records at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame website



While in the off season Joe Delaney still wanted to help out and do great things. So he would go and volunteer to help anyone in the community.



He would buy uniforms, carry groceries, mow lawns for the elderly, and help pay bills. Only because they needed help and he was available to do so.



Joe lived for others and would do anything to help those in need. He would even sacrifice his life for others in need.