

Formula 1 and Indy Driver, Entrepreneur, Best-Selling Author, Television broadcaster, Professional Speaker

Derek was born and raised in Dublin, Ireland to a middle class working family. He financed his first race car working as a laborer in the iron ore mines of Australia. While travelling the race tracks of England, he even took up residence in an old school bus.

In 1977 he won the British Formula 3 championship en-route to becoming the first driver from the Republic of Ireland to compete in Formula One. He was ranked 10th in the world in 1980. He has lived in Ireland, England, Australia, Monaco and America.

He made six starts in the Indianapolis 500 before winning the 12 Hours of Sebring endurance race, twice, in 1990 and '91.

In 1984, Derek was almost killed when he suffered one of the hardest crash impacts a driver had ever survived at the Michigan International Speedway. After nineteen surgeries and three years in therapy, he returned to full-time racing.

When he retired from the cockpit in 1992, Derek started a 24-year television broadcasting career with ESPN, NBC, CBS, and Fox Sports. USA Today called him; *"the best new face on sports television"*. IndyCar Racing magazine voted him *"the most popular motor sports television announcer"*.

Moet & Chandon awarded Derek the Joules Goux Award for his outstanding contributions to motor sports television. He was nominated by ESPN for an Ace Award, and was inducted into the 2000 Motorsports Ireland Hall of Fame. In 2010, he was inducted into the Sebring Hall of Fame.

Derek was Sylvester Stallones personal driving coach prior to shooting the racing movie; DRIVEN. He appeared twice with Paul Newman on the tonight show and counts David Letterman amongst his friends. He coached Ashley Judd, George Lucas and John Elway in preparation for the Toyota Pro Celebrity race at the Long Beach Grand Prix.

Derek literally wrote the book on motorsports success; Race To Win: How to Become a Complete Champion. He was honored to have Mario Andretti write the foreword. His second book, A Champions Path: Race Team Tactics for Business was published in 2017.

He is currently a sought after keynote speaker with clients such as; Xerox, Pepsico, State Farm, Zurich, BMW, Bentley, Rolex, Valspar, Toshiba and the US Government Department of Defense.

Derek has three sons, Conor, Colin and Christian and resides in Indianapolis and Phoenix. His son Conor finished sixth at the 2022 Indianapolis 500. His youngest son, Christian, is a four-time Jet Ski World Champion.

Derek became an American Citizen on September 28, 1993.