



MICHAEL KUTCHER

From the moment of birth, Michael Kutcher has overcome challenges and conquered obstacles that most people could never imagine. Born 45 years ago in Cedar Rapids, Iowa as the unexpected twin brother of actor Christopher “Ashton” Kutcher, Michael met his first of many challenges at delivery. Entering the world notably smaller than his twin brother weighing less than five pounds, Michael was barely responsive and struggled to take his first breath.

Thanks to both quick medical care and his will to survive, Michael pulled through his early days and weeks, although not without lasting adverse effects. By age three, Michael was battling significant developmental delays, and had challenges with walking, vision, hearing and using his hands. He wasn’t diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy until he entered Kindergarten, missing a key window of early intervention which was common at the time.

Throughout his childhood, Michael’s desire to thrive and keep up with his siblings helped him deal with challenges he experienced with his eyesight, speech, and motor skill development. Michael grew up in a loving and supportive family that taught him to make the best of his circumstances. Unfortunately, Michael’s uphill battle was only getting started.

Diagnosed with heart failure at age 13 unrelated to his cerebral palsy, Michael was once again faced with an unthinkable challenge for survival. After being given a life expectancy of just

three to four weeks, Michael defeated the odds and successfully received a life saving heart transplant.

It was this close brush with death that opened Michael’s eyes to the fragility of life and inspired him to take control of the future he once thought he wouldn’t have. Michael graduated from High School in and later continued his education earning his Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management and Finance.

His medical triumphs and perspective on Cerebral Palsy have led him to work directly with the Cerebral Palsy Foundation as an advocate and public speaker. Michael’s determination and passion has driven him to advocate and raise awareness for Cerebral Palsy research funding at the CDC and NIH for the last decade.

When he’s not advocating for Cerebral Palsy awareness or inspiring audiences around the nation, Michael resides in Colorado, where he’s built a successful finance career. In his free time, Michael enjoys spending time with his family, traveling and playing golf.

Michael’s message is one of inspiration, hope and appreciation. Having overcome unthinkable challenges against extraordinary odds, Michael is living proof that perseverance and unwavering positivity can overcome even the most seemingly impossible of obstacles and create positive impact.