

## **THE NICK ADAMS JOURNEY**

Nick Adams is an enormously successful individual who has continually overcome tremendous odds and defeated adversity to be where he is today.

His story is one of great inspiration.

Nick was born on September 5, 1984, in Sydney, Australia.

Just 16 months later, the most defining moment of his life would come. Nick became extremely ill. Despite several visits to countless pediatricians and doctors, no one could diagnose Nick's illness. It was only on Christmas Eve of 1985, when Nick had to be brought to the Emergency Department of the Children's Hospital, with only one doctor on shift, that he was able to be diagnosed. The doctor was a visiting American doctor. He gave a tentative diagnosis that Nick had Neuroblastoma, a childhood cancer, and directed his parents to take him for more tests. The diagnosis was right, and Nick commenced treatment a few days later on New Year's Eve 1986.

Due to Australia's small population and lack of knowledge on the cancer at the time, most Australian doctors were unable to identify the cancer. This was not the case of the American doctor who had probably seen such childhood cases in America, and had far greater knowledge of Neuroblastoma. As a result, the diagnosis of the visiting American doctor, who by fate had happened to be on duty on a public holiday, almost certainly saved Nick's life.

At the time of diagnosis, aside from the solid tumor in his abdomen, Nick was already in the most advanced stage of the cancer- Stage 4, where the tumor had metastasized and spread throughout his entire body. His parents were told their son had a 5 percent chance of survival- that only 1 in 20 infants at such a stage survive and that even if he did, he may never be able to walk.

Nick was treated with intensive chemotherapy, surgery and radiotherapy over a period of almost three years. Through a fierce tenacity and determinedness that would later come to be the trademarks of his life, he defeated the cancer and made a full recovery.

His early fight would forever shape his outlook and attitude toward life.

Nick's parents believed the greatest asset in the world for their son to possess was confidence. To this end, they sent Nick at the age of 9, to travel alone to visit his grandparents in Europe. This was followed by a series of trips throughout elementary and high school where Nick would travel as an unaccompanied minor to visit family in Europe.

To instill confidence, Nick began performing in front of a camera from the age of 5, when in order to communicate with family abroad; Nick's parents would film home videos where Nick would be given the task of informing them what was happening in their lives at the time. This experience taught him to never fear the camera and honed his already burgeoning speaking abilities.

Attending the prestigious private school, Trinity Grammar School, from Kindergarten to his Year 12, Nick applied himself to his studies and graduated as the dux of his school in English, German, and Legal Studies.

His academic success continued with Nick attaining degrees in Media and Communications, majoring in Government & International Relations and Germanic Studies, a four year degree, but completed by Nick in three and a half. This was followed by a later degree in Education, both attained from the celebrated University of Sydney.

During university, Nick's thirst for advocacy and ideological struggle were quenched when a former school friend, considerably older, recruited him to politics.

With a clever tongue and ability to connect on many levels with diverse range of people, it soon became clear that Nick had found his forum to inspire and achieve objectives. It took only ten months until Nick would get his first taste of electoral success.

At the age of 19, he became one of the youngest people ever to be elected to political office in Australian history in the local government elections of March 27, 2004. This was followed just two years later by a stunning vindication of his political abilities when even his political adversaries voted for him to become the youngest Deputy Mayor in Australian political history on Tuesday, September 13, 2005, just days after his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

Media attention was intense and soon he was recruited by the local community radio station to present a program. From 2006-2008, he presented The Nick Adams Afternoon Radio Show, on community radio station 2RDJ FM. With his managerial and strategic abilities rapidly expanding, in 2007, he was elected to the management Board of Directors of this radio station. In the same year, he was also appointed a Justice of the Peace.

From 2005 to 2007, through university, and beyond graduation, Nick worked in two consultancies: one specialising in corporate communications and government relations, the other a focused international public relations firm. Since 2008, he has run his own consultancy called "Nick Adams Consulting". Some of this involves motivational speaking engagements.

Nick is an outspoken supporter of the US-Australian alliance, and is a member of the American-Australian Association, as well as involved with the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney.

In February and March 2009, Nick emailed as many organisations and individuals across the United States as possible he deemed suitable, based on Google Search Results, informing them that he wished to speak at functions they were involved with, explaining his life story and love for their country.

In June and July 2009, he toured the United States, visiting thirteen states, on a speaking and observation tour. He spoke at meetings, luncheons, dinners and rallies. The theme of the speaking tour was why America was the greatest country in the world. His speeches saw him speak in Chicago, Central Illinois, New Orleans, Washington DC, Virginia, New York and Austin in Texas. His reception was incredible.

Where he promoted his appearance at an event through the media, the phone lines would flood the organisation hosting the event with reservation requests.

Every speech delivered during this tour, without exception, was given a standing ovation at its conclusion. People requested autographs, policy institutes offered internships, media expressed interest and he was issued with requests to speak right around the country.

Amazed at the response of the American people wherever he went, within one week of his speaking tour, Nick felt he had an obligation to the American people to write a book. In his view, an outside voice reminding America of their greatness was not just highly unusual, but well overdue.

The entire speaking tour was self-funded and Nick did not charge a fee for any speaking or media engagements.

He has an extraordinarily high media profile in Australia, appearing regularly on television and radio as a commentator.

Nick is considered one of the finest orators in Australia and is highly sought after on the Australian speaking circuit.

Throughout his life, he has travelled extensively throughout Europe, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Nick speaks fluent German, having attended an academic school in Hamburg, Germany, for an accumulated eight months.