

Condensed Harry Carson Biographical Profile

Harry Donald Carson is a native of Florence, South Carolina. Born on Thanksgiving Day (11/26/53) to Gladys and Edgar Charles Carson Sr. he is youngest of 6 children. He attended and graduated from the public schools within the Florence School System.

Carson attended and graduated from South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. He went on to pursue graduate studies at South Carolina State and Fairleigh Dickinson University. In 2016 he was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University

After his graduation from college he played professional football with the New York Football Giants in the National Football League. He played for 13 seasons (173 games). As a result of his play Harry Carson became the 231st member of pro football to be inducted into the Professional Football Hall of Fame in 2006 in Canton, Ohio.

Carson is CEO and President of **Harry Carson Inc.** a Sports Consulting and Promotions Company. He is the author of 2 books. **Point of Attack** published in 1985 by McGraw-Hill and his second and more comprehensive book reflecting on his career and life after football **Captain for Life** was published by St. Martin's Press in August 2011.

Carson has served as Executive Director and Chairman of the **Fritz Pollard Alliance**. The FPA is an organization that represents all National Football League Minority Coaches, Coordinators, Scouts, Player Personnel and Game Day Officials dedicated to creating a greater sense of racial and gender diversity in non-player roles within the National Football League.

Carson is currently a Spokesperson for Hackensack Meridian Health.

Aside from many academic and athletic high school awards, college, professional sports and post professional sports awards/honors his most important recognition could be that he is credited with being one of the very first former professional athletes to draw attention to the association of concussions (mild traumatic brain injuries) with neurological abnormalities later in life to those who have participated in contact sports or have served in the military.

Through his education and his own personal experiences as an athlete he has established himself as an open and very knowledgeable internationally recognized source on **Concussions in Sports**. Carson has long been an advocate on health-related issues. Aside from his advocacy for sports-related concussion awareness, he has been an advocate for Prostate Cancer awareness, Aphasia, Aplastic Anemia and Spinal Cord injuries causing Paralysis.

In a "lifetime" effort to "make a difference" in the lives of others, Harry Carson has worked with many organizations like the Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis where he serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Wynona's House (an organization that help abused children and their families) by collecting toys and redistributing the toys and food in cooperation with the Newark Police Department to families in and around Newark, New Jersey communities during the Christmas season. This practice has come to be called "Blue Christmas". He has given much of

his time and energies hosting and participating in many charity golf tournaments to benefit other various worthy causes.

Aside from shining a light on specific health related issues Carson has also been a very strong advocate toward the plight of his National Football League brethren. Instead of focusing on his own career achievements, he used his **2006 Pro Football Hall of Fame induction** speech as an opportunity to highlight the issues of inadequate pensions and the need for improved benefits for retired NFL players.

Throughout his life Carson has been a lecturer and speaker to diverse groups that range from juvenile and prison inmates to high school scholars, from college athletes to corporate executives and political leaders.