

Steve Redgrave



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Sir Steven Geoffrey Redgrave

He is a retired British rower who won gold medals at five consecutive Olympic Games from 1984 to 2000. He has also won three Commonwealth Games gold medals and nine World Rowing Championships golds. He is the most successful male rower in Olympic history, and the only man to have won gold medals at five Olympic Games in an endurance sport.

Redgrave is regarded as one of Britain's greatest-ever Olympians. As of 2016 he is the fourth most decorated British Olympian after cyclists Sir Chris Hoy, Jason Kenny and Sir Bradley Wiggins. He has carried the British flag at the opening of the Olympic Games on two occasions. In 2002, he was ranked number 36 in the BBC poll of the 100 Greatest Britons. In 2011 he received the BBC Sports Personality of the Year – Lifetime Achievement Award.



Early life and education



Redgrave was born in Marlow, Buckinghamshire, to Geoffrey Edward Redgrave, a submariner in World War II who became a builder, and Sheila Marion daughter of Harold Stevenson, a local bus driver. In 1887 his great grandparents, Harry and Susannah Redgrave, moved to Marlow from Bramfield, Suffolk. He was educated at Great Marlow School

Olympic games



Redgrave won gold medals at five consecutive Olympic Games from 1984 to 2000 plus a bronze medal at the 1988 Summer Games.

Immediately after winning the 1996 Olympic Gold Medal, he stated if anyone found him close to a rowing boat again they could shoot him. However, he changed his mind shortly afterwards, and resumed training after a four month break.

In 2000, he won his fifth consecutive Olympic Gold Medal and retired from the sport. In August 2000, prior to his final Olympic games, the BBC broadcast *Gold Fever*, a three-part BBC documentary which had followed the coxless four in the years leading up to the Olympics. It included video diaries recording the highs and lows in the quest for gold. At the medal ceremony after 2000 Summer Olympics he was also presented with a gold Olympic pin by IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch in recognition of his achievement.

World Championships



At the World Rowing Championships he won nine gold medals, two silvers, and a bronze.

He won the World Championship for Indoor rowing in 1991.

Personal life

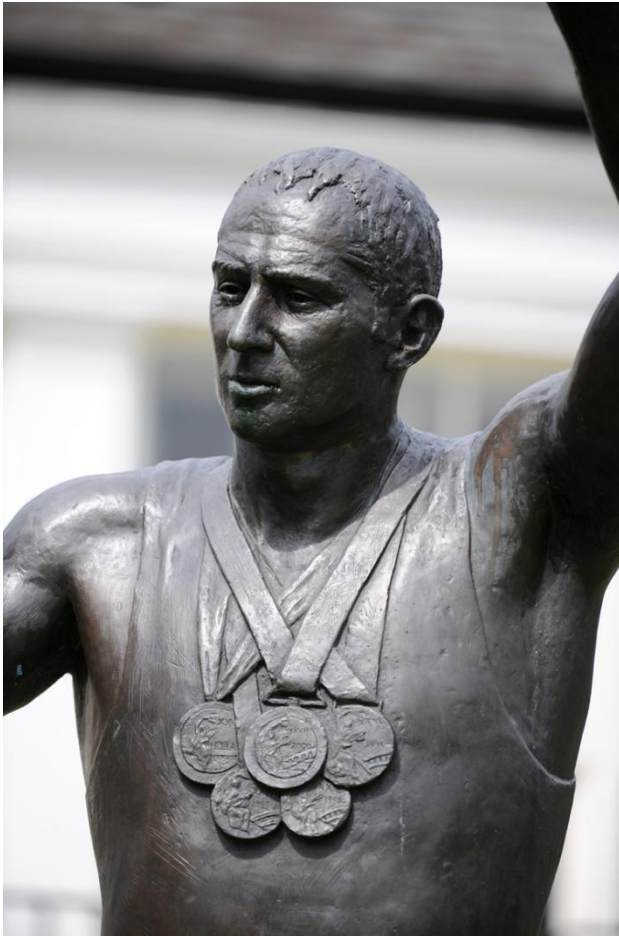
He married Ann Callaway in 1988; an accomplished rower in her own right, she represented Great Britain in the women's eight at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984 and was Chief Medical Officer to the GB rowing team from 1992 to 2001 and since 2009 their first full-time Medical Officer. He is the honorary president of British Rowing.

Steven and Ann Redgrave have three children, Natalie, Sophie and Zac. Natalie rowed with the Oxford University Women's Boat Club which won the women's boat race at Henley Boat Races in 2011.

He was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis before the Barcelona Olympics in 1992, and with type 2 diabetes in 1997.



Honours



- * In the 2001 New Year Honours he was appointed a Knight Bachelor "for services to Rowing" which he received from Queen Elizabeth II on 1 May 2001 in Buckingham Palace.
- * He was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1987 and promoted to Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1997.
- * In 2000 he was voted the BBC Sports Personality of the Year.
- * In 2001 the International Rowing Federation awarded him the Thomas Keller Medal for Outstanding International Rowing Career.
- * In November 2001 he was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University from Heriot Watt University having previously been awarded an Honorary Blue in 1997.
- * In 2002, his fifth Olympic gold was voted the greatest sporting moment in Channel 4's 100 Greatest Sporting Moments.
- * The Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake was opened by him and Matt Pinsent in 2006. The lake and boathouse provide training, medical and scientific facilities for the GB rowing squad.
- * In 2011 he was awarded the *BBC Sports – Lifetime Achievement Award*.
- * In 2013 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Edinburgh "in recognition of his outstanding sporting achievements and role as a sports ambassador".
- * He is commemorated at Burnham Grammar School, Redbridge Community School and Broadlands Science and Engineering School as one of the four houses there. At Linton Village College in Cambridgeshire and Woodcote High School in Croydon, there is a school faculty (house) named after him.

Thank you for your attention!

