

Christian Faith At Work

Integrating Faith and Business

Hoyt Video Background

Rick Hoyt, 37 years old, told his father Dick, 59 years old, that he wanted to participate in a three-mile foot race being run to benefit a local child who was the victim of some sort of an accident. Dick was surprised and asked him how he planned to do it.

The reason for his surprise was that Rick had suffered from cerebral palsy all of his life and was confined to a wheelchair with virtually no muscular control. The only way Rick can even communicate is by tapping his head against a specially designed pad that is connected to a computer. Rick tapped his answer to the question by saying that he (Dick) would have to push him (Rick) in his wheelchair.

They ran in and completed the race. After the race, Rick typed a heart-breaking message to his dad. He told him that participating in that race was the first time in his life that he had felt like an athlete, like he wasn't handicapped! He felt free! Dick was crushed, but was determined to help him experience that feeling again.

They started running in race after race. They worked up to six-mile races and even beyond that until they finally qualified for the big one – the Boston Marathon (26.2 miles). They ran in and completed this unbelievable race. But they did not stop there.

With the marathon distance under their belt, they went to the next natural step – Hawaii and the Ironman Triathlon. This race makes the Boston Marathon look like a warm-up drill.

To start, Dick put Rick in a rubber raft attached to a harness over his (Dick's) chest. Dick then swam the first leg of the race by dragging the Rick's raft behind him for the full **two and one half miles**. From there, he picked Rick up out of the raft and carried him the one hundred or so yards to the staging area of the bike leg of the race.

He placed Rick in a seat welded to the **front** of the bicycle over the handlebars. While it would be much easier to put the special seat on the back of the bike, Rick would not have been able to see as well from there! With Rick strapped into the seat, Dick pedaled the **112 miles** of this leg of the race!

When they finished this portion of the race, Dick took Rick from the front of the bike and placed him in the wheelchair. He then ran, pushing Rick, the last leg of the race – **26.2 miles** (a marathon)!

It took them roughly 17 hours to complete the triathlon.

***Read the post at <http://christianfaithatwork.com/christ-and-the-company-christmas-party-christian-faith-at-work/>