



## **Oscar Robertson**

Oscar Robertson (The Big O) forever changed the game of basketball -- on the court and in the courtroom. He is not only the National Association of Basketball Coaches' "Player of the Century," but has also distinguished himself as a social activist, a business owner, a mentor and teacher, and a philanthropist.

On the court, the 6'5" Robertson set new standards of excellence at every level and is considered one of the greatest all-around players in the history of basketball. He was the first big point guard who could score from anywhere, rebound, pass, and play defense.

Following his college graduation, The Big O co-captained the undefeated 1960 U.S. Olympic gold medal team, often considered the greatest basketball team ever put together. He then embarked on a 14-year Hall of Fame NBA career -- ten years with Cincinnati and four with Milwaukee -- during which he led his teams to 10 playoff appearances including Milwaukee's only NBA title in 1971. He was Rookie of the Year in 1961, Most Valuable Player in 1964, a 12-time All-Star, and MVP in three All-Star games.

He is the NBA's all-time leader in triple doubles (season, 41, and career, 181), and in rebounds by a guard. He was the first player to lead the league in assists and scoring in the same season. He led the league in assists six times and free throw percentage twice, and is the only guard ever to lead his team in rebounding.

In 1997, when his daughter Tia's kidneys were failing as a result of lupus, The Big O performed the assist of a lifetime with a kidney donation. Since then, he has advocated for health and wellness, organ transplantation and kidney disease prevention.

Robertson is the author of an autobiography, "The Big O: My Life, My Times, My Game," and "The Art of Basketball," the definitive instructional book on the fundamentals of the game.

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