



## Tony Collins

Tony Collins was a standout running back for the New England Patriots. He was a second round draft choice of the team in the 1981 NFL draft and went on to play 7 seasons for the team from 1981 to 1987. He had an outstanding 1983 season when he rushed for 1,049 yards, was named to a Pro Bowl and played in Super Bowl XX. But all was not good in Tony's life.



His downfall began when he became addicted to painkillers after a football injury and gradually grew to become a dependency on cocaine. Collins gave into life's temptations which ultimately put an end to his NFL career, one that he dreamt of since childhood.

Tony has documented his fall into the abyss and his subsequent redemption in his book titled "Broken Road: Turning My Mess Into A Message". In his book, Collins openly speaks about his faults, flaws and mistakes but without going into graphic details which would otherwise

traumatize young readers. The key takeaway is that he discusses the changing of his ways and his desire to assist others in avoiding the mistakes that he made. His story is one of hope and encouragement.

Tony's 4,647 yards on the ground still rank him 3<sup>rd</sup> all-time with the Patriots franchise these many years later. Today, he works educating high school athletes and their families on how to navigate the college recruitment process and shares his story of hope and redemption with school children and audiences in attempt to keep them from falling into the traps which he stumbled into. Reach out to us to book Tony to share with your organization, school or company.

