





Robin Dallenbach January 20, 1964 -Nationality: American Raced: 1971 - 1988

Background: Robin McCall was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. She spent much of her childhood involved in motor sports and it was a passion that continued to grow throughout her teenage years. In 1982, she made a name for herself by competing in two NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at the Michigan International Speedway. Like many drivers, finding appropriate funding became an issue for her in the 1980s, but she continued to compete wherever she could. During this time, she married champion racer and now TV commentator Wally Dallenbach Jr. and the two welcomed their first child, Jake, in 1990. Their son Wyatt was born a few years later and their daughter, Kate, in 1997. All three children have followed in Robin and Wally's footsteps and have become extremely active in racing.

Early Influences: Robin's interest in motor sports began very early in her life. By age eight, her father, Bob McCall, was already helping her race Quarter Midgets, and by age fourteen she was competing professionally. She had both the desire and the will to win. Her relationship with Wally Dallenbach Jr. simply deepened her love of the sport. The couple once competed against each other at the Daytona 24 Hours and they also raced on the same track at Road Atlanta in April 1987.

Racing Accomplishments:

- State Champion in Novice Quarter Midget in 1971.
- State Champion in Stock Quarter Midget in 1972.
- State Champion in B Modified Quarter Midget in 1973.

- Regional Champion in AA Modified Quarter Midget in 1974.
- Grand National Top Ten Finisher in AA Modified Quarter Midget in 1975.
- Grand National Runner-up in AA Modified Quarter Midget in 1976 and 1977.
 - State Champion in AA Modified Quarter Midget in 1976.
 - She was also Grand National Runner-up in AA Modified Half Midget in 1977.
- Grand National Champion fastest qualifier in AA Modified Quarter and Half Midget in 1977 and 1978.
- Regional Champion in AA Modified Quarter and Half Midget in 1978 and 1979.
- Grand National Runner-up in AA Modified Half Midget in 1979.
- Grand National Champion in AA Heavy Midget Division in 1979.
- Placed high in the season points' standings in 1979, winning one feature.
 - She had four heats in twelve races in the Mini Stock Division.
- Became the first female driver to compete in the Texas Race of Champions at the Texas World Speedway in 1979 and was the second fastest rookie qualifier there.
- Won the 100-mile Texas qualifying race and was second in the pole dash in 1980.
- Competed in the Limited Late Model Division in 1980.
 - She had ten feature wins, six trophy dash wins, and two heat race wins.
 - She was also runner up in the points' championship and was Rookie of the Year there.
- From 1981 to 1982 she competed in the All Pro Series in the Late Model Division.
 - She placed fourth both at New Smyrna Speedway in Florida and at a race in Georgia, and she placed fifth in Nashville, Tennessee.
- Raced in the NASCAR Winston Cup Series at the Michigan International Speedway in 1982 with sponsor J.D. Stacy.
 - Qualified in 35th place, but finished in 29th after experiencing engine problems at the Winston Cup Series on June 20, 1982. She had completed 107 laps.
 - Qualified in 29th place, but finished in 33rd after an accident at the Winston Cup Series on August 22, 1982. She had completed 47 laps.
- Placed in second on the road course at the Texas World Speedway in 1983.
- Became the first female finisher at New Jersey Meadowlands.
- Raced at the 24 Hours of Daytona in 1985.
- Competed in the IMSA American Challenge Series on the Factory Oldsmobile team in 1986 and 1987, with her best finish coming in in second place.
 - o She also won the Most Improved Driver Award during this time.

Life off the Track: With three kids, Robin Dallenbach spends the majority of her time with her family. Her sons Jake and Wyatt have been competing for a few years and Robin is now helping her daughter Kate race as well. The two started driving Quarter Midgets when Kate was eight years old and then moved on to Bandoleros. In addition to raising her children and helping manage their racing careers, Robin has worked as a driving instructor and has been a PPG Industries Pace Car Driver. She has driven in many car commercials and has also served as a stunt driver double in movies such as "The Bandit," "Her Deadly Affair," and "Bad Boys 2." In 2008, she helped co-author the book, <u>Portraits of NASCAR</u> with Anita Rich, which features images of NASCAR Cup drivers and their families off the track.

Interesting Fact: A deep love for racing extends throughout the entire Dallenbach family. Not only are Robin, Wally, and their children all involved in motor sports, but Wally's father, Wally Dallenbach Sr., is also a former successful race car driver who competed extensively throughout the 1960s and 1970s and served as Chief Steward in Indy car racing for CART (Championship Auto Racing Teams).

Sources Consulted

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