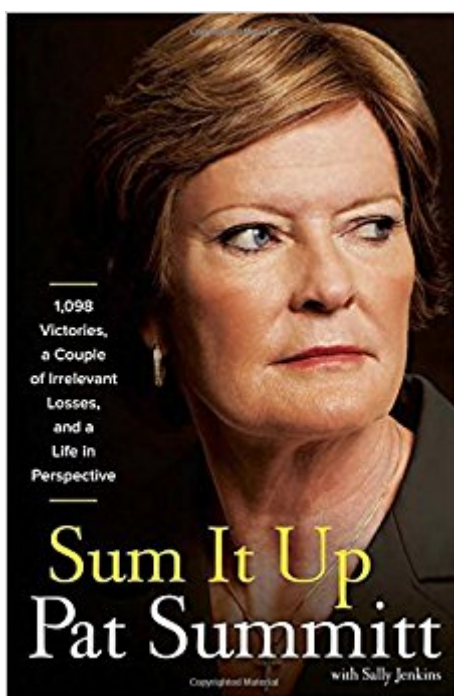


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# Sum It Up: 1,098 Victories, A Couple Of Irrelevant Losses, And A Life In Perspective



## Synopsis

Pat Summitt, the all-time winningest coach in NCAA basketball history and bestselling author of *Reach for the Summit* and *Raise The Roof*, tells for the first time her remarkable story of victory and resilience as well as facing down her greatest challenge: early-onset Alzheimer's disease. Pat Summitt was only 21 when she became head coach of the Tennessee Vols women's basketball team. For 38 years, she broke records, winning more games than any NCAA team in basketball history. She coached an undefeated season, co-captained the first women's Olympic team, was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame, and was named *Sports Illustrated* 'Sportswoman of the Year'. She owed her coaching success to her personal struggles and triumphs. She learned to be tough from her strict, demanding father. Motherhood taught her to balance that rigidity with communication and kindness. She was a role model for the many women she coached; 74 of her players have become coaches. Pat's life took a shocking turn in 2011, when she was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease, an irreversible brain condition that affects 5 million Americans. Despite her devastating diagnosis, she led the Vols to win their sixteenth SEC championship in March 2012. Pat continued to be a fighter, facing this new challenge the way she's faced every other--with hard work, perseverance, and a sense of humor.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"I have admired Pat Summitt for many years. To me, she epitomizes what it means to be a coach.   
Â Not only has she molded championship teams, but she has helped her players grow as people

and always done it with class and dignity. This book gives us tremendous lessons for winning on and off the court." — Tony Dungy, former professional American football player and NFL coach, and #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Quiet Strength* and *Uncommon* • is absolutely incredible! — No one has coached the game any better than Pat Summitt. — Sally Jenkins has worked with Pat to produce a truly inspiring book that will benefit every reader. — Pat was a pioneer. — She has led women's basketball over the last three decades. — As a result of her leadership, women's basketball has achieved great heights. — I consider a true honor to call her a friend. — Mike Krzyzewski, Head Basketball Coach, Duke University "Basketball legend Pat Summitt recalls her life in vivid detail, describing its triumphs, both on and off the court.... With her trademark honesty and grace, Summitt reveals her fears, her early anger and astonishment, her diminishing abilities, her decision to retire, and how her faith sustains her." — USA Today "Pat Summitt was one of the best coaches ever, and one of the most enduring... She helped lift her sport out of an era in which high school girls didn't even play on a full court, saw the number of female college athletes rise from 16,000 to almost 20,000, won eight national titles, and graduated 100 percent of the players who completed their eligibility. She did this through force of personality and, in her own telling, with a mix of love, fury and manipulation... As scandals and player lawsuits make college sports seem increasingly ruthless and suspect, Summitt is often held up as a rare example of dignity and class." — Emily Bazelon, NY Times "Vibrant, sprightly." — NY Times "Pat is a remarkable leader, lady, and Coach. One of the best of all time." — Rick Pitino, Head Basketball Coach, University of Louisville. "How many times have we heard a basketball fan utter that's the truth when witnessing a great play or player? — This book IS the truth, capturing the reality of challenges, the blessings of friendship and teamwork, the exhilaration of achieving excellence, and the rewards of mentorship and leadership." — Jody Conradt, University of Texas

PAT SUMMITT became head coach of the Tennessee Lady Volunteers in 1974; since then she achieved an astounding .843 average and won 8 national championships. She was the first coach in NCAA history to reach 1,000 wins. She lived in Tennessee with her son, Tyler. SALLY JENKINS is the author of #1 New York Times bestseller *It's Not About the Bike*. Her other 8 books include *The Real All-Americans: The Team That Changed a Game, a People, a Nation, and The State of Jones*. Her work has been featured in *Vanity Fair*, *GQ*, and *Sports Illustrated*. A native of Texas, Jenkins graduated from Stanford and lives in New York City.

I bought *Sum It Up* as soon as it came out and all I can say is if you are looking for an inspiring

read, this is it. Pat Summit is a fascinating woman with an incredible career and a lot of courage and grit. Her co-author Sally Jenkins has a great gift for bringing out interesting details that provide the story behind the story. While Summit has coached women's basketball, I found her ideas on what it takes to be a champion to be directly motivating to me in my work which has nothing to do with sports. I was also interested to learn about Summit's early life and how those experiences shaped who she became. Of course, this book is bittersweet because of Summit's diagnosis of early onset Alzheimer's, yet again Summit's is inspiring us by reminding us to face and fight adversity as hard as possible as well as to treasure each moment.

I have read other books about -and by- Pat Summit and really enjoyed them. As a basketball junkie I very much appreciate the details of coaching and playing in her very specific and passionate style. Her photo on the cover is a perfect replica of her death stare and it sets the tone of the book. The recruiting, teaching, disciplining, educating, maturing and - most important - the US NOT ME values she demanded of the players, are what made them the dominant team they were. The rest of the book covers her background and life away from the gym; and is very easy to read because it fits in perfectly with the games. I bought this book more for her Alzheimer's Disease diagnosis than the Basketball, and it was very much worth the cost and time to have an understanding of how someone with so much drive would face such a looming barrier. Each chapter includes, sometimes brief and sometimes longer, Alzheimer's situations, facts and opportunities presented to anyone facing such an unknown future. How any one person handles this "future" is up to them, but holding it all inside is the worst possible response !!! After going through the first set of tests two weeks ago ----- I received my diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease TODAY at age 69.

I have always been the fan of the TN Lady Vols. I knew she was strong, intense and a great coach from afar. But after listening to this book. I admire Pat Summitt more than ever. What a role model but I wish I had when I was a teenager about to decide on a college. Heartfelt, truthful, and encouraging. This is a great read and needs a 10. Maybe I'll even try to get it signed. Go Pat!

I bought this book because I had heard about it and I was not disappointed. I loved the stories of her youth and her description of how she worked just as hard as her brothers and always tried to please her father. I could identify with that.. I also live in Tennessee and I am familiar with the area where she grew up. It is amazing to me how she accomplished so much in her lifetime coming from a rural area and how quickly she adapted to a more progressive way of life. I have always admired Pat

Summitt but I think I admire her even more now that I have read her book. The chapters are a little lengthy but I would definitely recommend this book. It is sad that such an energetic and worthwhile person has this disease. But I am glad she wrote this before she completely lost her memories.

I was worried that I wouldn't enjoy this book due to my lack of basketball knowledge. That was not an issue at all - even though I think those of you understanding basketball would enjoy it even more. She wrote about the insecurities derived from a very country upbringing and the ways she overcame them. She expressed the desire for physical and verbal gestures of love from her father only to realize later in life that the things he did for her (having high expectations, a good work ethic, moving the family so she could play basketball, etc.) were signs of love that molded her into the person she became. She is very candid about dealing with Alzheimer's. She is a strong woman and a role model for women. I wish her the best!

This is a great book. I couldn't put this down once I started reading it. It makes you feel like you know Pat Summitt as your personal friend. You just start to root for her and her team. I would highly recommend if you want something uplifting and touching.

I loved this book. Full disclosure. I have lived in Knoxville, TN for the past 33 years ... it is now my hometown, and I have heard Pat Summitt speak, seen her at Lady Vols games and seen her interviewed on the news and at games many many times. I only wish that this book had been written before she left the public eye. I would have appreciated her so much more. An amazing life. One amazing woman. Great book.

Few role models in our society today exist like Pat Summitt. As a lifetime women's basketball fan, I've always admired Pat Summitt. As a young girl, my dream was to play for Pat because in the world of women's basketball in the late 80s and early 90s, Pat Summitt was THE coach in the game. My dream was to have those steely blue eyes glare deep in to my soul, rip me up and down and challenge me to pursue greatness. Regardless of whether you are a Pat fan, a women's basketball fan or even just a sports fan, this is an excellent read. The incredible integrity and intensity Pat Summitt lives out in all aspects of her life is a lesson we can all learn from. The challenges she faced and the way she paved the way for woman in sports, as well as the workplace in general, makes me incredible grateful. I feel more and more indebted to Pat and other woman like her (including my own mother) who opened the realm of possibilities to my generation as well as my

daughters. If you've read her other two books, there is a certain amount of repetition, but this book goes deeper on a personal level and shares events that have transpired since her other two books. I've always respected that Pat shares not only her greatest triumphs, but the mistakes she's made and how she learned from them. This book includes all the above, showing us what it means to truly pursue excellence with grace and dignity. This is also an excellent gift for others. I purchased it for my mom as well as a friend of ours who does ministry to local coaches in our area.

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