



Flo Hyman

Considered by many to be the greatest player in the history of American women's volleyball, Flo Hyman led the United States to a silver medal at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Hyman was one of the original members of the U.S. Women's National Team that lived and trained full-time in Colorado Springs beginning in 1978. She joined the U.S. National Team after a decorated playing career at the University of Houston, where she was a three-time NCAA All-American and the College Player of the Year in 1976.

The 6-foot-5 standout played a key role in establishing the United States as a world power in volleyball. From 1975 through 1984, she competed in every major championship for the United States, including the 1977 and 1981 World Cup, the 1978 and 1982 World Championships, and the 1984 Olympics.

An intense competitor who became a worldwide ambassador for her sport, Hyman died suddenly on January 24, 1986 after collapsing during a match with a club team in Japan. She was just 31 years old at the time of her death. The cause of Hyman's death was a ruptured aorta caused by a rare congenital disorder known as Marfan syndrome.

To honor her memory, the United States Olympic Committee commissioned a bronze sculpture as a tribute to Hyman. The sculpture may be viewed at the U.S. Olympic Complex in Colorado Springs. In addition, the Women's Sports Foundation annually presents the Flo Hyman Memorial Award to an individual who exemplifies Hyman's dignity, spirit and commitment to excellence.