

Joe Roth: A Time to Remember

Today's contest with UCLA is the seventh annual Joe Roth Memorial Game. While Roth, who died following his senior year at Cal of a virulent form of cancer, will always be remembered as a great quarterback, one of the best to ever play college football, the memory of his character and courage will also live forever. The strength that Roth displayed in the face of his illness was truly remarkable. Roth eschewed special treatment from his friends and teammates through the latter half of his final season and during the post-season bowl games in which he participated.

"If everyone keeps coming up and feeling sorry for me, I'm afraid it will start making me feel the same way. I mean, I feel I won't be the same Joe Roth anymore. Instead, I'll be Joe Roth underdog, the guy everybody

feels sorry for. I don't want that. Really, figure I'm just a normal guy. What if some guy sitting down there on the street corner got cancer? Would everybody make such a big fuss?"

The Joe Roth Award was created in 1977. The criteria for winning the award is inscribed on a plaque. It reads: This honor is presented in memory of Joe Roth who helped many people to realize that life is not a game, but a precious gift, and in recognition by their teammates of that unpretentious, yet powerful faith which the following young men also embody.

That really says it all about Joe Roth.

Joe Roth Award Winners
1977—Gary Graumann
1978—Rich Campbell
1979—Stan Holloway
1981—Dan Wetherell

