

Derrick Brooks Bio

Derrick Dewan Brooks (born April 18, 1973) was an outstanding linebacker in the National Football League (NFL) for 14 seasons. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2014.

He played college football for the Florida State Seminoles, and was twice recognized as a consensus All-American. He was drafted by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the first round of the 1995 NFL Draft, where he played his entire professional career. An 11-time Pro Bowl selection and nine-time All-Pro, Brooks was named AP NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 2002, and earned a championship ring with the Buccaneers in Super Bowl XXXVII. Later, he was elected to the 2000s all-decade defensive team. He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2014. He was the co-owner and president of the Tampa Bay Storm of the Arena Football League from 2011 to 2017.

Brooks is married and has four children.

Derrick Brooks is the founder of the Brooks Bunch charity and youth scholarship foundation in the Tampa Bay area. He has taken local youth across the nation and South Africa with the objective of presenting a first-hand experience, or a "mobile classroom." Brooks also headed the founding of the Brooks-DeBartolo Collegiate High School in Tampa with fellow Pro Football Hall of Fame member Edward J. DeBartolo Jr.

Brooks is well known for his charity work and his advocacy of the importance of education. He was the co-recipient of the 2000 Walter Payton Man of the Year Award and was named to the Florida State University Board of Trustees in 2003 by Governor Jeb Bush.