



BLUE RIBBON MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE FOR ALUMNI SUCCESS

LANE JOHNSON

Lane Johnson attended Groveton High School where he played football and competed in track. In football, he was an honorable mention all-state selection as a quarterback, and was named all-district; however, he wasn't highly recruited out of high school. In fact, Kilgore College was the only school to offer him an athletic scholarship.

Johnson accepted that offer, playing quarterback and tight end at KC during the 2008 season. After his freshman year at KC, he transferred to the University of Oklahoma, where he played for the Sooners football team from 2009 to 2012.

Because of all of his hard work at Oklahoma, the Philadelphia Eagles selected Johnson in the first round (fourth overall) of the 2013 NFL Draft.

In Super Bowl LII, the Eagles defeated the New England Patriots to give Johnson his first Super Bowl ring in 2017.

Johnson continues to be one of the best offensive linemen in the NFL and is involved in many charities throughout the nation to provide educational opportunities to underprivileged children.

In 2019, Johnson generously donated funds to the college to construct "The Lane" Athletic Performance Center that is a state-of-the-art weight and training equipment for use by all sports at the college including football, basketball and softball.

In 2023, Johnson made another generous donation – in the amount of \$200,000 – that were proceeds from his participation in the Philadelphia Eagles' Christmas Album, "A Philly Special." The \$200,000 donated by Johnson will be used for renovations to the Kilgore College football field house at R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium.

Also in 2023, Johnson was nominated by the Philadelphia Eagles for the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award presented by Nationwide. Considered one of the league's most prestigious honors, the award recognizes an NFL player for outstanding community service activities off the field, as well as excellence on the field.

Through all of Johnson's generous donations, he has always said that he just wants to give back to Kilgore College – one of the places that was pivotal for helping with his success.

We reached out to Lane. Unfortunately, he sent his regrets that he could not join us today – but he sent the following message:

"Thank you to Kilgore College for the Blue Ribbon Medal of Excellence for Alumni Success honor. This means a lot to me because without this stop on my journey, I would not be where I am

today. Kilgore instilled so many values and taught me so many life lessons and I am forever grateful. Winning a Super Bowl and being named to Pro Bowls are fun, but nothing beats the feeling of giving back. From the community and supporters to my coaches and teammates, I will forever be a Ranger!"