



Background

At the age of two, Joey was sitting in the stands of local dirt tracks where his father was racing stock cars. His father had already been racing for ten years.

It was ten years later that his father found out about karting, and he, Joey's two brothers and Joey (Joey was twelve years old) started racing non-stop. After a while his brothers found other interests and stopped racing. Joey's dad kept racing with Joey until it was too much for the both of them to run. After Joey's dad had won a few championships himself, he hung up the full-time racing helmet and just did it every once in a while.

Throughout Joey's career his parents have been behind him 100%. They spent a lot of money traveling to races, and so long as his grades stayed up, they allowed him to miss school to pursue his career and dream of racing. They raced every race they could throughout the country in karts at the time, and won a lot of them too!

In 1996 and 1997, while racing karts nonstop, Joey was able to drive a sprint car and midget. He ran a few races, and decided not to pursue sprint car racing, because his heart was in formula cars. Joey has devoted all of his time and effort towards obtaining a ride in the direction of Formula One.

In 1998, he and his dad, with the help of some friends, ran Formula Mazda in the Start Mazda Series. They won one race and finished fourth in the championship. In 1999, he was fortunate to find a ride with the number-one team, in Formula Mazda at the time, Kent Stacy's Stacy Suspension Systems (S3) team. Joey went on to win eight races, with eight poles and two championships.

At the end of 1999, Joey broke his elbow very badly in a karting accident. It took three months recovery before he could drive again, in which he lost all chances of finding a full-time ride for the 2000 season. He did, though, run in the Team USA scholarship in England, which he won. At the end of 2000, Joey received a phone call from the DSTP Toyota Atlantic team, owned by Dede Rogers, asking for his presence at a six-man shootout the team was having at Buttonwillow Raceway Park in California. He went to the test, and they picked him to drive for their Toyota Atlantic team in 2001, where they achieved two wins, six podium finishes, and a pole position, on their way to taking third in the championship (only two points out of second), and the Rookie-of-the-Year title.

The 2002 season got off to a great start with DSTP. He earned a podium finish and a pole position after the first two races, but in testing for the third race, he had a very big testing accident on the Milwaukee Mile. He broke three vertebrae, his left knee, tailbone and rib. He missed six races while recovering. In the first three races back, he had run top-five in all events. In the past two years he had also driven and tested for Tom Milner's, PTG BMW Motorsports team doing testing one race.

In 2003, Joey drove for DSTP yet again starting the season right. At the first race of the season, Joey and DSTP took the provisional pole at Monterrey, Mexico. Joey led the first few laps, until a gearbox failure terminated the chance for a win. Joey was on the podium in

Portland. It was obvious the terrible luck Joey had this season, as he was awarded the Jovy Marscelo Sportsmanship Award. He took seventh place in the championship. Joey was very fortunate to drive for Dede Rogers and her DSTP team. Dede is a very generous, outspoken, fun-loving person and is the talk of the paddock.

For 2004, Joey ran for PTG Racing in the Rolex Grand-American Road Racing Series, GT class in their BMW M3. A different form of racing entirely, Joey had a blast driving the BMW M3s prepared by Tom Milner's PTG Team and enjoyed the challenges of learning how to drive a completely different style of racecar in a completely different type of racing. He was teammates with the infamous Boris Said and Bill Auberlen. Justin Marks and Joey teamed up in the beginning of the year, and the driver lineups changed a bit, as Joey and Boris were teammates the last few races. He and Boris took first place at The Glen.

For 2005, Joey was signed by BMW North America to continue driving the BMW Team PTG BMW M3 GTs in the Rolex Grand-Am series. 2005 would prove to be one of Joey's most successful seasons since running Star Formula Mazda with Kent Stacy (S3) in 1999. With a team leading eight podiums and four wins, Joey went on to finish the championship in 4th place without going to the last race in Mexico City. Joey had many different teammates and drove multiple team cars to victory. He drove the #21, #22, and #16 cars to victory lane. He shared the podium with BMW and GT car ace Bill Auberlen, one of his best friends and teammates Justin Marks, Ian James and the veteran of the group, Chris Gleason.

In 2006, Joey was again signed with BMW North America to drive their BMW M3 GTR machine. There was a change in '06, as BMW and PTG made the move to the American Le Mans Series (ALMS). PTG and their world-class team of drivers and crew earned two podium finishes. The team also won the pit stop challenge, which was a great accomplishment.

2007 was a change of manufacture for Joey, but still with PTG. Panoz was the new car, but he was back with the same teammate, Bill Auberlen. It was a tough year for the new program. 1 podium was the highlight of the year for the duo.

2008 brought a whole new challenge and one Joey was very excited about. It was his first shot at a Daytona Prototype and it was with a great team and sponsor.

Family History

Joey's parents were born and raised in Sacramento, California. His entire family-grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and brothers, all live within a 40-mile radius of Sacramento. His dad has done almost everything you can do in life; he likes doing his own thing. At 16 years old he owned his own restaurants while still going to high school; when he finished high school he had three restaurants. Apparently, that got old after a while, so he sold the restaurants and started a moving company, where he met Joey's mom (moving her furniture). Joey's parents married shortly after. The moving company turned into a trucking company for a while until he had enough of that too. His next venture began about the time Joey was born. Joey's dad started a towing service. Most of Joey's early memories are standing in the middle seat of a tow truck with his mom and dad towing cars. When that got too dangerous, his dad opened a used tire store and used car lot combination. The tire store lasted the longest of companies his dad had owned. Joey grew up helping customers, changing tires and selling used cars. From around six years old until about 17 years old, Joey spent summers, holidays and all other free time at the tire shop.

When business was good at the tire shop, his dad started a housing development company on the side. All throughout this time, his dad had been racing stock cars at the local dirt tracks on the weekends. Stock cars were not cheap, though, and they were looking for something else to do. Also during this time Joey was playing baseball all over the country. He played baseball for six years, and made all-stars each year.

In 1991, someone came into the tire shop and told Joey's dad that they should check out these go-karts. That weekend the Hand family went and watched them at a nearby track. Joey thought they were awesome, but his dad said that they were not what he had expected. That Monday while out picking up tires in the truck, Joey as usual, fell asleep. When the truck stopped, he woke up and they were sitting in front of a go-kart shop. They bought three karts and started racing the next weekend. His dad and him have not stopped racing since. Joey's dad also served a stint of time at Emmick Racing Karts. Emmick Racing Karts sponsored Joey for ten years in karts.

As far as Joey's mom is concerned, after high school she went to work for the California Highway Patrol, and has worked there ever since. Everyone tells Joey how he has the coolest, most supportive mom, ever, and he agrees. She is also the greatest Grandma ever. Without her, Joey would not be anywhere. She supported the entire family when Joey's dad closed all his businesses to focus on Joey's racing in 1997. Joey's mom is still involved in racing as the kartel motorsports mom.

Joey grew up with two brothers; Philip his older brother age 34, and Jeff his younger brother, 26. Philip is now involved with kartel as a mechanic on race weekends; he has a thirteen-year-old daughter named Brittany also. Jeff was Joey's number-one mechanic and 'bouncer' for years. He is currently a partner in the family business, Jiffy Pool Service, but is taking time off to go through the California Highway Patrol Academy in pursuit of his career as a Highway Patrolman.

In 1995 Joey met the love of his life, Natalie. Joey and Natalie met at the kart track, as Natalie was also a karter. She has been through a lot with Joey, from big race wins to big wrecks and all over the country too. They've been together non-stop for 14 years. Natalie and Joey have been married for five years now. They have two kids, Chase and Kaylee. Chase is two and a half years old and Kaylee is five months old.