



Craig Hutto
Taking the Plunge

It was a fishing trip gone terribly wrong. On June 27, 2005, Craig Hutto and his brother Brian were waist-deep in murky waters off Panama City Florida when Craig felt something bump into him. What happened next is unimaginably terrifying. An eight-foot bull shark clamped on to Craig's right leg and dragged him underwater. Craig and Brian fought their way to shore, punching the shark repeatedly, but the damage was done. His femoral artery severed, Craig lost two-thirds of the blood in his body. Thanks to the heroic work of bystanders and emergency medical technicians, doctors were able to save Craig's life, but had to amputate his right leg above the knee.



Now fitted with a prosthetic, Craig, an accomplished high-school basketball and baseball player before the attack, continues to fight -- to be an athlete again.

Inspired by his CAF mentors – Ironman finisher Sarah Reinertsen and Paralympian John Siciliano -- he knows anything is possible when one applies ability, motivation and attitude. On Nov. 5 he'll prove it at the 13th Annual Sempra Energy San Diego Triathlon Challenge. Craig will take a big step when he swims 1.2 miles as part of a relay team that includes his brothers, Brian and Zach. Craig already knows he has what it takes inside – now, he's ready to show his fighting spirit to the world and take the plunge, returning to the ocean for the first time since the attack.