

Michael Jordan Donates \$10M on His 60th Birthday

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Former (Adjective) /'fɔːrmər/ having previously been something
Example: He is a former basketball superstar.
2. Donation (Noun) /dəʊ'neɪʃən/ money or goods given to a charity; the action of giving money or goods to a charity
Example: The orphanage received a huge donation from the billionaire.
3. Individual (Noun) ˌɪndə'vɪdʒuəl a single person
Example: We should be treated as an individual not as a group.
4. Championship (Noun) /'tʃæmpi:ən,ʃɪp/ a competition to decide the best player or team in a sport or game
Example: The players and their fans are holding a huge party in celebration of their recent championship.
5. Grant (Verb) /grænt/ to give or allow something
Example: Her boss granted her request to take a month-long vacation.
6. Magic (Noun) /'mædʒɪk/ a quality of being beautiful or wonderful in a way that seems apart from daily life
Example: That is the magic of being in nature, we become in one with ourselves.



Former basketball star Michael Jordan celebrated his 60th birthday by giving \$10 million to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Make-A-Wish said it was the largest donation ever given by an individual in the charity's 43-year history. Jordan, who won six NBA championships with the Chicago Bulls in the 1990s, hopes his donation will inspire others to grant children's wishes through the charity. His birthday was on February 17.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation works to grant "wishes" for children aged 2 to 18 with serious illnesses. These wishes might include things like being a princess for a day, getting a new pet or even meeting a celebrity.

Jordan is one of the charity's most popular celebrities, and since 1989 has granted hundreds of wishes. He was made Chief Wish Ambassador in 2008 for his work with the charity. Believed to be one of the greatest basketball players in history, Jordan was the NBA scoring leader 10 times. He also helped the US win gold medals in basketball at the Olympics in 1984 and 1992.

Now worth \$1.7 billion according to Forbes, Jordan is the owner of the Charlotte Hornets basketball team. Jordan said, "I can't think of a better birthday gift than seeing others join me in supporting Make-A-Wish so that every child can experience the magic of having their wish come true."

DISCUSSION

1. Are there any athletes from your country that are known for being generous?
2. Who would you say are the most well-liked celebrities from your country?
3. If you could meet any celebrity, who would you choose?
4. Have you ever done volunteer work? If so, what kind? If not, would you like to?
5. Who are the most selfless people you know?