

Pete's early school career was difficult. He failed third grade and was finally diagnosed with dyslexia in seventh grade. He eventually dropped out of school. Tragically, breaking his neck at 20 years old left him without the use of his limbs. He took this as an opportunity to reset his life. After recovering from his accident, he earned his high school diploma and went on to get a degree in graphic design. He now works at Intel.

Being dyslexic is one of the most powerful things I have going for me," says Pete. "A lot of people see it as a problem; I don't. I see it as something that helps me in a lot of ways to get the results that I get. It's a difference in thinking, a difference in the way you process thought or put your ideas together. So I want to change the way people view dyslexia. I had to overcome a lot of stigma and self-doubt, and a lot of those things pushed me into the career path that I'm in. But I think the way that my brain works allows me to process ideas in a different way than the average person does. And so that helps me in labs tremendously. I can come at an idea or project from angles far and wide and be able to see it in a way that no one else has really thought about. And I know dyslexia has helped me to do that."