



ROB WILLS BENEFIT

SPAGHETTI DINNER

SILENT AUCTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 2014

OSSEO-MAPLE GROVE AMERICAN LEGION HALL

4 - 9 p.m.

Just out of high school, Rob was involved in a car accident that left him paralyzed from the sternum down. Although he would be confined to a wheel chair the rest of his life, the direction his life took was positive. He has competed in two Paralympic games (Barcelona, Spain and Atlanta). He has managed Mary's Place in Minneapolis, a homeless shelter for families, as well as run a Teen Center for homeless youth.

Last January Rob became very sick and was hospitalized. Diagnosed with an abscess on his spine, he endured 9 surgeries before being transferred to the Mayo Clinic. Doctors there first replaced all the rods in his back during a 12-hour surgery, only to have to do it again when one of the screws broke off of his vertebrae. Now, because of the realignment of his body, he needs a new wheelchair and assessable van to get around.

Rob has been out of work since January and will not be able to return until he is fully healed. We are raising funds to help him with expenses while he continues to recover. We are asking for and would greatly appreciate your support.

Please join us at this event, or contributions can be sent to
Rob Wills Benefit Fund
c/o First Advantage Bank
9950 Foley Blvd., Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Brother Husband Friend Teacher Mentor Leader Hero

These words all describe Rob Wills. He is a man of integrity, love, and compassion, and it is our honor to help him in this time of need. Please allow us to tell you his story.

Just out of high school, Rob was involved in a car accident that left him paralyzed from the waist down. Although he would be confined to a wheel chair, the direction his life took was positive. He not only survived – he thrived! Rob’s rehab got him back to weightlifting and he went on to compete in two Paralympic games (in Barcelona, Spain and Atlanta). Along the way, Rob began to work at Sharing and Caring Hands in Minneapolis as a manager of Mary’s Place. More than just doing a job, Rob became a father figure and mentor to hundreds of homeless youth who frequented the Teen Center he ran.

Last January Rob became very sick and was hospitalized. Diagnosed with an abscess on his spine, he underwent his first surgery. Unfortunately, he endured nine additional surgeries due to infections, before he was transferred to the Mayo Clinic.

A twelve-hour surgery at Mayo involved taking the old rods out of his back, replacing them and adding an additional one. However, during this rehab, one of his vertebrae holding the screws in broke. In July he had another eight-hour surgery – with rods extending the length of his back to his tailbone.

Rob has only been able to work a few weeks since January and will not be able to return to work until he is fully healed. Because of his surgeries, he now needs a new wheelchair and a new accessible van to get around. We are working to raise funds to help him with this expense as well as house expenses while he continues to recover. We are asking for and would greatly appreciate your support.

A fundraiser is being held on November 8th, at the Osseo Legion Hall from 4 to 9 p.m. We are accepting donations for our silent auction and gift basket auction, as well as any monetary contributions.

Thank you for taking the time to read Rob’s story. We greatly appreciate any help you can give.