



Dear Family and Friends:

I am writing to you on behalf of my cousin and friend, Scotty McKeel. In August Scotty suffered a life-changing spinal cord injury as a result of a devastating fall. His spinal cord was fractured, leaving him a paraplegic with no use of his legs. Additionally, he suffered a traumatic brain injury that limits his ability to speak and write. Scotty spent months in a rehab facility and is now living in his mother's home where he continues to receive therapy.

Scotty graduated from Beaver High School in 2000 and then attended Duquesne University where he received a Bachelor's degree in History. He then went to Ohio Northern University in Ada, OH where he graduated with a Juris Doctorate in law and passed the Pennsylvania Bar Exam in 2008. Until his accident, Scotty worked as a bankruptcy attorney in Pittsburgh, PA.

Prior to his accident, Scotty enjoyed reading, traveling, attending sporting events and golfing. Now he spends his days learning life skills to adapt to his wheelchair as well as continuing to work on his ability to speak and write. The road he faces is long and difficult, but he keeps a positive attitude and focuses on the fact that he is a miracle, rather than on the pieces of his life he lost due to the accident. Scotty believes that he will one day return to a productive life in the community with the support and assistance of his family and friends.

Even with insurance, Scotty faces many uninsured, injury-related expenses such as: the cost of home modifications, co-pays and deductibles, rehab therapy, and alternative therapies just to name a few. This presents a financial challenge to Scotty and his family as it is estimated that they will need to raise approximately \$80-\$125,000 for first year expenses. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that average lifetime expenses for spinal cord injury patients range from \$500,000 to 3 million dollars.

To help with this financial burden, a fundraising campaign in Scotty's honor has been established with HelpHOPELive (formerly NTAF), a nonprofit organization that has been assisting the transplant community for nearly 30 years. All donations are tax deductible, are held by HelpHOPELive in the Mid-Atlantic Spinal Cord Injury Fund, and are administered by HelpHOPELive for injury-related expenses only. **Please consider making a contribution today.**

Make checks payable to: Mid-Atlantic Spinal Cord Injury Fund
Note in memo section: In honor of **Scott McKeel**
Please mail to: 150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite F-120
Radnor, PA 19087

For credit card contributions, please call 800-642-8399 or visit www.helphopelive.org and enter **Scott McKeel** in the Find a patient section of the homepage.

Scotty's family and friends also are continuously planning fundraising events including bake and rummage sales, spaghetti dinners and golf outings, and we gladly welcome volunteers. Please e-mail smckeel@hotmail.com to volunteer. Thank you so much for any help you can give to Scotty and his family.

Sincerely,

Brandie Pupi
brandiepupi@hotmail.com

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. This campaign is administered by HelpHOPELive (National Transplant Assistance Fund, Inc.), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing fundraising assistance to transplant and catastrophic injury patients. Information: 800.642.8399.

A copy of the official registration and financial information of HelpHOPELive (National Transplant Assistance Fund, Inc.) may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.