

Foundation Recipient

Brett Bittner



Brett With His Five-month-old Son

Brett's Story

Brett Bittner's story is that of many of us who are part of the construction trades industry. Having grown up in McKeesport, Pennsylvania (just southeast of Pittsburgh) Brett was employed by Stahl Plumbing in Pittsburgh for the last 10 years doing residential and commercial plumbing work. Brett is an outdoor enthusiast, country and western music and Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

Brett's life changed forever while camping on February 22, 2014.

While gathering firewood a tree fell on Brett, fracturing his neck and damaging the spinal cord at the C-5 vertebrae. Brett is now a quadriplegic.

The father of three, Brett was used to being on call with a lot of overtime. Now however, Brett was in dire need of a number of expensive items to help rebuild his life, like a handicapped van. Brett's wife looked into a number of grant programs to assist with getting an accessible vehicle, but none were accepting applications. Then she ran across the Joseph Groh foundation. A trade-in of Brett's old vehicle along with personal finances left them \$15,000 short of being able to purchase a van that would meet their needs.

Thanks to our many donors however, we were able to fill the gap and provide Bittner family with the \$15,000 they needed to purchase a van.



Brett's Family with the New Van



Brett Sitting Next to the Van on the Day It Was Picked up