



Hello, everyone! This is Andrew, at Albatross. As many of you already know, we are holding our second Buddy Classic here at Albatross on April 28th. I'd like to send out a note now for all of our followers, and I'd really appreciate it if you can forward along to anyone you feel might be interested in taking part, either as a sponsor or a player. I want to update you all on where we are at in our fundraising efforts, as well as the overall status of The Buddy Classic, and what it means to us and many of our loyal and loving patrons.

At the end of this note, I'm going to paste the email I sent out last year, around this time, announcing the formation of The Buddy Classic, in case you weren't already aware of why we decided to start this last year. Feel free to reach out to myself or Kelsey for any questions you may have, regarding our mission.

As most of you know, The Buddy Classic was formed last year in honor of my uncle, Mark. Mark was my best buddy, and my golfing buddy. If you don't already know about Mark, and would like to, I encourage you to read the email I sent out last year, pasted below. We ended up moving Mark up here, last June. We had quite the road trip, cruising in Mark's wheelchair van, from Tucson to Grand Forks. It was a safe and successful adventure, with Mark, my mom, and Kelsey. Mark's journey came to an end in September, when he passed away, here in Grand Forks. Even in his last days, Mark was the happiest one in the room, as he always had been, always the sunshine for everyone around him. If you're interested in some more about this, stories about Mark, and the wonderful human he was, throughout his life, I'd be happy to share his eulogy with you. The Buddy Classic will live on as a tribute to Mark.

So, we continue our mission of funding a wheelchair golf cart for the community. Through last year's first Buddy Classic, along with Buddy Classic apparel sales throughout this last year, we've raised over \$10,000. We're hoping through this upcoming Buddy Classic, along with some potential high level donor and grant possibilities, we can finish funding this wheelchair golf cart. The goal with this first cart is to allow buddies to continue spending time together on the golf course, even when one of the buddies is no longer able to walk, or safely transfer to and from or ride on a regular golf cart. Again, more can be read in last year's email, below. We do look forward to funding other similar projects, through future Buddy Classic events, once we have accomplished this initial goal of funding the wheelchair accessible golf cart. We will probably look further

into funding an adaptive golf cart, allowing a wheelchair bound person, still capable with their upper body, the ability to become vertical and swing from the cart. We'll continue to fund projects that tie into the mission of allowing "all the buddies" (as Mark always said) to spend time together, either on or off the golf course.

The Buddy Classic will take place on Sunday, April 28th. We'll have the simulators on the driving range at 10am, open for all tournament players, and then we'll get the matches started at 11am, after going through introductions and rules with the teams. We are looking to have the most teams we've ever had in here for a fundraiser tournament, capping out at our max....so, SIGN UP NOW TO RESERVE A SPOT! We are looking for support via sponsorship, as well as teams, and we have a package price for a sponsor and team combo. I'm attaching the flier, front and back, below, with the details. This event is sure to be a fun filled day of golf, some friendly competition, and lots of great prizes! We plan to have a silent auction, as we anticipate some great prize/auction donors, just as we had last year. The silent auction, as well as the 50/50 raffle, and all of the side games will be open to the public....you don't have to be a participating team to take part in any of those things! Let's make this an incredibly fun and successful event and fundraiser! Kelsey and I are super excited!

ALBATROSS INDOOR
GOLF CLUB PRESENTS
THE BUDDY CLASSIC

SUNDAY
APRIL 28TH, 2024

2 PERSON SCRAMBLE TEAMS

AWESOME PRIZES

50/50 CASH RAFFLE

FUN SIDE GAMES

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

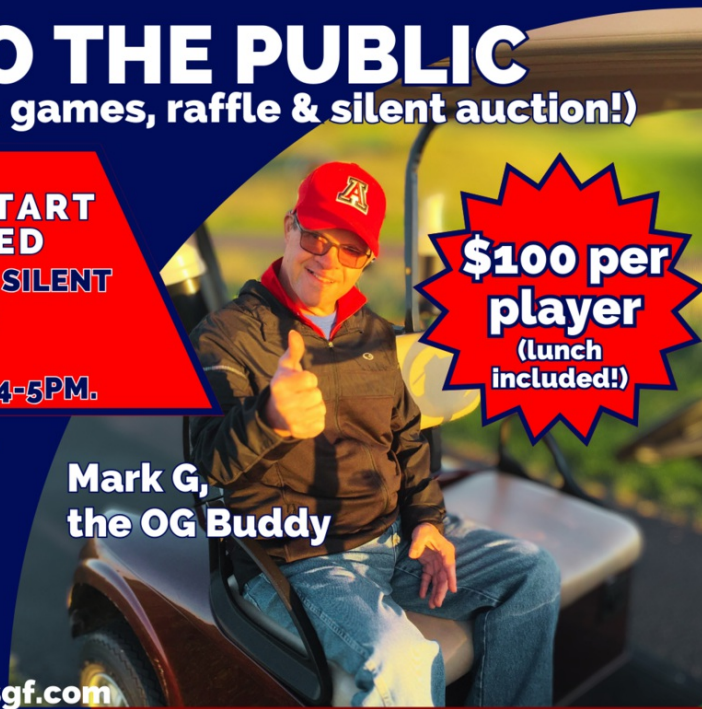
(including 50/50, games, raffle & silent auction!)

10AM: RANGE
11AM: TOURNEY START
1PM: LUNCH SERVED
SIDE GAMES, RAFFLES & SILENT
AUCTION THROUGHOUT
TOURNEY! WINNERS
ANNOUNCED BETWEEN 4-5PM.

TO REGISTER A TEAM,
DONATE A PRIZE OR
BECOME A SPONSOR,
CONTACT
ALBATROSS AT:

701.757.3220
albatrossgf@albatrossgf.com

Mark G,
the OG Buddy



\$100 per
player
(lunch
included!)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PRIZE DONOR

Social media shout out & a spot on the tournament program

SIMULATOR (\$250)

Social media shout out, program spot & SIGNAGE ON A SIMULATOR during tournament

SIM + TEAM (\$400)

Social media shout out, program spot & SIGNAGE ON A SIMULATOR during tournament + a 2 person team

CHAMPIONSHIP (\$2000)

Social media shout out, program spot & SIGNAGE ON ALL SIMULATORS during tournament + TWO 2 person teams

HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR A WHEELCHAIR GOLF CART FOR THE GREATER GRAND FORKS COMMUNITY! LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CAUSE AT:

WWW.ALBATROSSGF.COM

Email sent out last year regarding the newly formed Buddy Classic...

THE BUDDY CLASSIC - SEASON FINALE FUNDRAISER

Hi, everyone! This is Andrew Krauseneck. Please take the time to read this, as I'm looking for your help in spreading the word about our upcoming event here at Albatross. Kelsey and I would like to announce our upcoming fundraiser tournament, The Buddy Classic. This tournament is founded, organized and run by Kelsey and I, as a fundraiser for an overall cause that is very important to us. As to not keep you hanging in suspense, I'll just throw it out right away, as the

most likely use for the net proceeds will be for the funding of a wheelchair golf cart for our community. The overall mission is to allow for buddies to continue spending time together, through the progression of Alzheimer's, making life more enjoyable for "all the buddies" (as my uncle Mark says).

Currently, none of the local golf courses have a golf cart with wheelchair accessibility. We're not looking, currently, at a wheelchair golf cart that allows a wheelchair bound person to be able to tilt from their seat and swing; rather, we are looking at an extended golf cart, with a ramp and restraints, so that a wheelchair bound person can be easily loaded and secured on the golf cart, allowing them to be a passenger out on the golf course. This will allow wheelchair bound folks the opportunity to still get out on the golf course, with their buddy, either family or friends, to enjoy the fresh air and overall atmosphere out on the golf course. These wheelchair bound folks may have once been able to walk, either accompanying their buddy on a regular cart or walking along with them on the course, or maybe they even once played the game themselves. They may have lost their ability to walk through their decline via Alzheimer's, through the progression of aging, through other physical decline, or through a tragic accident. Whatever the reason may be, they can't get out on their own to play the game or accompany their buddy on the course, without a golf cart like this. If, down the road, we see a demand for a golf cart that allows a wheelchair bound person to play, future funding may be directed towards that as well (carts are made that tilt the golfer in a position to swing, very cool equipment). For now, we are looking to fund the wheelchair golf cart that allows someone to still spend time with their wheelchair bound buddy on the course, as a companion.

I'll explain now, why we're looking at this, and the inspiration behind it. If you're already sold on the mission, and don't want to read all of this, no offense taken, and just jump further down to date and details. It'll be much easier for me to type this out, rather than speak about it aloud, so, don't expect much as far as words go, on the day of the event (not interested in laying my emotions on you all). My best buddy is my uncle, Mark. Many of you know about Mark, either through our friendship, prior to or during these past eleven years of Albatross, or you've seen my posts from time to time about Mark. Mark is my uncle and Godfather, the youngest sibling of nine, on my mom's side. Mark has down syndrome, and lived with his parents until they passed away in 2002/2003. Not too long after that, during what was supposed to be a brief visit down to see my mom and dad, in Tucson, Mark decided he wanted to stay down and live with my parents. My mom has been Mark's primary caregiver since then, so for nearly twenty years now. Mark and I were already extremely close, when I was younger, as were all of us cousins, as Mark was always there, looking out for

us. Mark and I then over the years after high school grew closer and closer. I spent almost all winter down in Tucson, with Mark and my family, the two winters prior to starting Albatross. Mark would go out golfing with me, almost every day. Mark was a killer putter, dropping some bombs. He would ride in the cart, get out on every green, show me how to roll it right in the hole. I would take Mark almost everywhere I'd go. Every Saturday I'd take Mark to his Special Olympics practices, for basketball and track and field, quite the competitor. Mark qualified for National Special Olympics one year as well, so we ended up having a huge group of our extended family attend Lincoln, NE for that, what a good time. Mark made all of us better, molded many of us into who we are today. Mark taught me how to look at life, how to treat people, what's important in life. "It's okay, it's okay" and "you bet, buddy" would be pretty standard remarks from my buddy.

Mark started developing some signs of cognitive decline quite a few years back now, just minor things, but then they gradually progressed. Mark was diagnosed with early stage Alzheimer's about six years ago, after he had progressed further. Over the next couple of years, his movement, routine, and other day to day task capabilities declined further. Just over four years ago, Mark completely got to a point where he couldn't walk on his own. He was hospitalized, then moved into short term rehab care, and then transitioned into long term skilled care, after he wasn't able to progress back to having the ability to walk. My parents couldn't provide the care at home for him any longer. Mark has been in a skilled care facility in Tucson now for the past four years, currently in the memory care unit of the facility. My mom has, from the start, made sure that she or someone else is there with Mark, throughout the day. Initially, my mom or dad would be there from the time Mark got up in the morning, until he went to bed at night. Eventually my mom was able to feel comfortable enough to let the staff handle things once Mark went to dinner. That was a huge relief, so my parents could take a slight step back. My mom has still been going in every day, or having a friend or family member cover some days, from morning to dinner time. My mom is also one who has made me who I am today. I certainly wouldn't be who I am today, if not for my mom, if not for both of my parents. This care and dedication my mom has shown is only one example of who she is, but it's an extremely powerful example. I've hassled my mom for years, prior to the hospitalization, and after, to move back up here to Grand Forks, with Mark. I would love for nothing more than to help out on a more regular basis, and spend more time with my buddy, Mark, and my entire family. Many of you know that I would spend most of my summers with Mark and my family, either visiting them, or them visiting me, prior to Mark's decline. Mark hasn't been able to travel since he was hospitalized, so now Kelsey and I have gone down and spent a good amount of our summers down in Tucson. If you didn't know already, Kelsey is my other best buddy, which took some work on her part,

being able to get up there with Mark, but pretty impressive on her part (and Mark is happy about it). When we go down to Tucson, we're able to bust Mark out of the nursing home, take him to the house, and keep him for weeks at a time. I can lift Mark, so we can transfer him, provide the care needed, and get him and my mom time outside of the nursing home. I got Mark a wheelchair van last spring, so things have gotten a little better for getting out and about, away from the nursing home at times, when other family is visiting them in Tucson; but, we haven't had the ability to get out golfing, in Tucson, with the lack of a wheelchair golf cart, and it being way too hot in the summer there for Mark to be outside on the course. Well, now, to get to the next exciting part, and how this was all spurred into action, for the fundraiser, now at this point.

My mom might be interested now in moving Mark up here to Grand Forks. We don't know how much time we have left with Mark, but we want it to be the best time possible for him, and I also want it to be the best time possible for my mom. Kelsey and I want to help out as much as we can. We've had the luxury of being able to do that in the summers, spending so much time down there, but if they're up here, we can help out, and spend all sorts of time with them, all the time. We could use a bouncer here at Albatross, so Mark would be able to help us out with that, too. With the wheelchair van, and with being in the same town, we'd get Mark, and my mom, out of the nursing facility every day, hopefully for most of the day. We have Mark on the waiting list for Valley, if my mom decides to make the move for Mark. With all of this in the works, with the possibility of Mark moving up here, one of my first thoughts was how do I get Mark out on the golf course with me. I can get him to the course, with our van, but on the course, we wouldn't have a safe and comfortable option for Mark to tag along. It would be great for Mark to be out, in the fresh air, and observing his surroundings, even though he won't be able to get out to putt, and even though he may sleep through a good portion of the holes. I know it'd still be good for him. And, I would love having him out there. I started researching wheelchair golf carts, right away, gathering options and pricing. I don't care what it takes, I was going to figure out the purchase. Then, I started thinking outside of Mark and I, outside of our family, thinking there's no way we're the only folks that would appreciate this. No courses offer this, but if they did, people would certainly take advantage of the opportunity. I decided that we'd like to try and get the golf cart for the community, not just for Mark. Mark might not even end up moving up here, so we might not utilize the cart; but, through the process, I realized this is something we should make happen for the community. Let's try and provide the opportunity for everyone to get out with their buddy, on the course, to allow a caregiver/companion to get out and play more, and allow for their wheelchair bound buddy to enjoy the fresh air and atmosphere on the course. This is why we're doing this now.

We are currently in discussions with local courses, regarding the possibility of them adding a wheelchair golf cart to their fleet. If we can use the net proceeds from this fundraiser to sponsor part of the cart, or maintenance, or something in relation to the cart offering, that's what we'll do. If a course doesn't add this to their offering, then we'll use the funds to work towards the purchase of a wheelchair cart on behalf of Albatross, provided we can coordinate logistics for having the offering available for folks that would have a desire to utilize the cart. Maybe this will mean having a course store and maintain the cart, if Albatross funds the purchase of the cart. Whatever the route may be, we are looking at this fundraiser to enable the wheelchair golf cart offering for our community. We want to be very clear about this, so you know where the funds will be going. If, for some reason, the golf cart purchase and logistics are not feasible, either financially or logistically, the net proceeds will still go towards something of a similar cause. The whole idea of The Buddy Classic is to allow those that are losing their buddy to Alzheimer's to still be able to continue spending time with their buddy, enjoying their time together. With our focus here at Albatross being on golf, and Mark's and my time being spent so much on the golf course, our primary intent will be to maximize the ability of people to get out and golf together, whether it be on the course in the summer, or here in the winter. So, proceeds, if not put towards the wheelchair golf cart, would go towards something to impact that mission. If not golf related, it will go towards something also to support the mission, of being able to spend time with your buddy, throughout the progression. To be clear though, with the hopeful outcome of providing a wheelchair golf cart for the community, the golf cart would be there to support all of those wheelchair bound folks that would want to get out on the course. Alzheimer's would not be a requirement. We'd love to see Special Olympics athletes who may be wheelchair bound, or others with developmental disabilities who are wheelchair bound, to also get out on the course with their buddies, as spectators. We'd love to see the elderly, from Valley or other care facilities, get out on the course on the cart as well. Anyone who would benefit from the wheelchair golf cart, we would love to see be able to utilize it. Maybe it becomes so popular that every course decides to invest in having one in their fleet. Just to be clear as well, whether Albatross ends up fully funding the cart, or if it's a sponsorship or partnership between a course or courses and Albatross, or if a course does it on their own, there will still most likely need to be cart rental fees collected from the user, hopefully similar to a normal cart rental rate. The funding is to support the extremely large purchase price of this cart, and then the ongoing storage and maintenance, as there won't be the normal day to day usage to justify the return on investment for most courses. These carts are in the 15-25k range, some higher, just depending on where we're able to source the cart from. We want to be fully transparent with all of this, so you all know how your support will be used. We hope those of you who

choose to participate and support the cause will trust that we have only good intentions for the net proceeds, and that we will put the funds to work for the overall mission.

We plan to make this an annual, or even semiannual event, quite possibly a kick off to the indoor golf season in the fall, and then a wrap up at the end of the indoor golf season. The goal will be to continue raising money towards the wheelchair golf cart funding and ongoing maintenance, or it will go towards the other possible areas that support the overall mission, as stated above. The Buddy Classic is already a "classic," and we haven't even had the inaugural event yet, pretty neat.

So, with all of this, we are going to send out details on player pricing and sponsorship options, this week. The date is set for Saturday May 13th. We hope this gives you enough time to commit to the event, and we hope it gives us enough time to fill the tournament, with both players and tons of sponsors. We are looking for simulator sponsors, as well as prize sponsors. We are also looking for a food sponsor for the event, to provide lunch for the players, as well as food for spectators (free will offering for spectators to eat, contributes to the net proceeds for the event). If you know you're in, as a player or sponsor, before we even send out the pricing/options, email or text us right away, to lock in your spot. Otherwise, be on the lookout for the details, coming later today, or this week.

Thank you everyone, so much, for taking the time to read this. And, thank you so much, in advance, for your support of this event and the overall mission. We are very excited to do this, Kelsey and I are pumped, and we really hope it takes off!

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Andrew Krauseneck
Owner/Operator - Albatross

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