

# **Foundation Annual Update**

Highlights of Giving • Year End 2020

Our Mission:

To provide higher education financial scholarships to select individuals in the Clarksburg and Damascus communities who display the quality of character for which Patrick was known. Additionally, The Foundation hopes to fund various support service offerings for families in Montgomery County, Maryland and other communities in need.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Walter Shifflett
Lily Shifflett
John Carbonell
Tami Matson
John Pino
Porter Shifflett
Gene Willingham

# **COMMITTEE LEADERS**

Robert D'Attilio Tammy Frost Shannon Shifflett As the PAS Foundation enters our fifth year, who of us would have ever imagined what 2020 was ready to challenge us with. Covid -19 hit our country and community hard and doing so changed our lives in many different ways. Job loss, the loss of life, school

closures, and the cancellation of youth and high school sports. The events the PAS Foundation traditionally holds had to be cancelled, but the Foundation wasn't going to let that stop us from continuing our mission of helping others and supporting our community. Patrick was always there to help someone in need. There will never come a day, minute or second I stop loving or thinking of him while always asking myself, "What would Pat do?" I still love saying his name and sharing his love and light everywhere I go. Empty



spaces never go away and time doesn't make the space less empty. Patrick's family has learned to take nothing for granted, absolutely nothing. Although we will grieve the loss forever, it doesn't mean my family and I lack happiness. We just love more and love deeper. The PAS Foundation continues to thank our sponsors, our donors and all of those who support us so that our mission continues. We thank everyone as always for their hugs and their prayers. May 2021 bless you all and keep you safe and happy. Someone told me recently "If you're going to be greedy, be greedy about service. People who serve are the happiest."

Speaking of people who serve, I'd like to thank Deborah D'Attilio for her 4 years of service on our Board. Lily and I appreciate all the hours of work and dedication to our cause.

With deep gratitude,
Walter Shifflett
President, The Patrick Shifflett Foundation

# **Ways We Give - Highlights**

Since our inception, the Patrick Shifflett Foundation has been able to donate or award a total of \$235,485 in Patrick's name. Here are the deserving organizations we gave to this year:

### **Honor Guard Lounge**

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, the ribbon was cut on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall's renovated USO Honor Guard Lounge. The lounge is specifically dedicated to the Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen who serve on the prestigious honor guard teams, the teams who have the ultimate honor of escorting service members for their last ride into Arlington National Cemetery where they are laid to rest with the utmost dignity and respect.

Donations from the Joseph E. Robert Jr. Charitable Trust, NFL Hall of Famer John Riggins and the Patrick Shifflett Foundation made the \$35,000 renovation possible.

# Leukemia Lymphoma Society Student of the Year 2020

In addition to a donation from our Foundation, the Coyote for a Cure team raised over \$90,000 for LLS.



Student Of The Year Team: Nick Shifflett, Carter Davis, Morgan Bragg, Alex Pope, Erich Maffey, Joe Laffman, Josh Zuckermann, Kyle D'Attilio, Jake Jackson, and Cameron Kennedy

### Food Delivery

To celebrate Patrick's 22nd birthday on April 20, 2020, we contacted the families that we had previously assisted during the holidays and found that some were in need of food during the pandemic. We delivered fresh food and groceries to 9 families in our community. Happy Birthday, Patrick. We hope we are living up to the example you set for us.

# Clarksburg Baseball (CBSI)

We continued our support of CBSI by

supplying uniforms for the 18u Travel team.



# Aid for the Greene Family

When a local Clarksburg family lost their home to a fire in May, the Foundation made a donation to help them get back on their feet. Their oldest son played high school football with Patrick and we know Pat would be the first to help his teammate.

#### Summer Fun Basket Drive

This summer was strange and stressful with our children stuck at home, but the Patrick Shifflett Foundation had the answer. Thanks to our donors, we were able to provide 17 local families with a basket full of summer fun goodies, full to the brim with toys, books, crafts, games, and groceries to kick off their summer!

# Hospital Staff Luncheon

To show support to our local healthcare workers, we teamed up with GrillMarx of Clarksburg to provide meals for more than 50 local emergency and trauma healthcare staff. These amazing people have worked hard during this crisis to serve Montgomery County, and we appreciate their service and dedication.

# **Holiday Giving**



On December 24, 2020, the Patrick Shifflett Foundation once again chose to reach out to the local community and adopt several families who were in need of gifts for their children and dinner on their tables. Families were given a Christmas meal, presents for their children, and large bins full of groceries for the holiday break. With the continued help and support of Porter and Shannon Shifflett, along with Emily and Lauren Lederer, Patrick's brothers, and cousins Corinne, Caroline and Sophie, the Foundation is pleased to continue the tradition of holiday giving

# Miles Prather donation for Aphasia therapy

See Miles' inspirational story on the next page and the way that Patrick continues to touch the lives of those he loved

# **Scholarships**

The Patrick Shifflett Scholarship Award seeks to recognize those who have emulated Patrick's sense of values and character. The Foundation was proud to award scholarships to 5 deserving seniors from Clarksburg and Damascus High Schools in 2020.

### Clarksburg recipients:



Ariel Margolis



Jaxon Ko



Zarina Tavares

# Damascus recipients:

Chelsea Ramos



Reece Petrolle



# Miles, our merciful soldier

Miles' and Pat's paths crossed when Miles was a young teenager. As one of Steven's good friends, Miles was a regular at the Shifflett's home. While Miles admired Pat's physical strength and brawn, later he told me he looked to Pat as a true example of how to live with a humble heart. Miles has always been a faith-filled young man but losing Pat taught him the value of prayer.

After Pat's death, Miles begged us for a tattoo to pay homage to him. While Monty and I agreed, we had one condition - it HAD to be something Miles could draw strength from later in his life. After much deliberation, Miles settled on Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Placed on his right forearm, he wanted it in clear sight so he could be reminded of Pat, of his faith, and of the importance of God in one's life.

Little did we know, years later, this scripture would serve as our North Star, our guiding light.

On October 9, 2019, while driving home from college classes, Miles suffered a catastrophic stroke. After being transported to Holy Cross ER, he was airlifted to the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) in Baltimore. Within minutes of arriving at UMMC, Monty and I were met by a small army of close family friends including the Shiffletts.



During his 3 1/2 week stay, Miles underwent several procedures and surgeries, including a cranioplasty to remove the left side of his skull to alleviate swelling. Miles was left paralyzed on his right side and unable to talk after the stroke. After almost a month, when he was medically stable, Miles was transferred to the National Rehabilitation Center. Over the next 11 weeks, the Shiffletts visited most every Sunday to check-in on their favorite patient and his weary parents. Throughout it all, his right arm adorning that faithful tattoo, has been the last to regain movement. It has served as his anchor holding him steady.

Immediately after he returned home in mid-December, I began researching programs to help Miles with the Aphasia (the difficulty to speak and process language). I couldn't bear the thought that the stroke stole his voice forever. His speech therapist suggested the Aphasia House at the University of Central Florida. We learned Miles' acceptance was a long-shot as the program receives MANY applications for six spots each semester. After sharing the opportunity with Walt and Lily, they encouraged us to apply and insisted The Patrick Shifflett Foundation would fund the tuition.

We submitted the application and by the grace of God, Miles was accepted. Our elation was soon dashed as the program was cancelled due to COVID. We had faith that something would give way for this to be Miles' opportunity. In early July, we got

word that the Aphasia House pivoted their research-based intensive language in-person program to a virtually-based data-driven program. It didn't take long for us to accept their offer for Miles to begin in late August. Lily and Walt reiterated their support, hands down.

Five weeks after the surgery to replace his skull, he had rebuilt the cognitive strength to endure the intensity of the program. In late August, Miles dedicated himself to four hours of speech therapy each day for the six-week program. The therapists started with the basics and soon he was practicing short sentences. Midway through the program, the Director asked Miles to select a few friends



to practice social exchanges. Steven and two close friends, Kory and Kayla, were at the top of that list. They struggled through the awkwardness of the training but halfway through the hour, laughter filled the room. Their friendship persevered. By the end of the program, his improvement was evident. Graduation Day was October 8, 2020, one day shy of the one year anniversary of his stroke. A reminder that God's plan is at work.

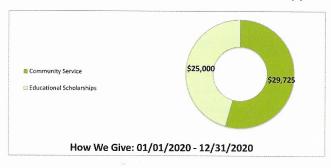
Miles is well on his way to recovery. He has many guardian angels, like Pat, and dear friends who are supporting him along the way. He is a living example that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

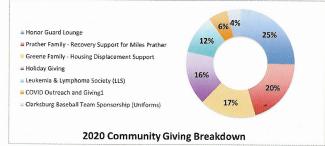
Our sincere appreciation to all of you who support The Patrick Shifflett Foundation. Your gifts are making a difference every day for young people like Miles.

With gratitude, Melissa, Monty, Maya and especially, Miles Prather

# How We Give - In "Dollars & Cents"

Year End 2020 (Note the Foundation is a Private 501(c)3 charitable organization)





1. Includes meals for local hospital staff, local family support, etc.

# **Yearly Events**

### **Corn Hole Tournament**

Our yearly fun-filled event has something for everyone — a corn hole tournament with cash prizes, music and kid-friendly games, and great food and drinks from GrillMarx restaurant. Last year, we missed our time for the community to come together and celebrate Patrick's life, but we are tentatively looking to host again in May of 2021.

# **Baseball Tournament**

After having to cancel in 2020, we look forward to hosting our fourth annual Patrick Shifflett Memorial Baseball Tournament in 2021. Our previous tournaments have seen over 64 teams from Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. We will continue with our tradition of the Honor Coin, presented to the player that best represents the character, courage, and sportsmanship that Patrick exemplified.

### **Golf Tournament**

In the first 3 years of the Patrick Shifflett Golf Invitational, we have sold out each year! Our tournament is known for spectacular raffle prizes and our amazing silent auction, as well as delicious food and drinks to fuel a competitive round of play. Mark your calendars for October 1, 2021.



It is with great sadness that we inform everyone of the passing of our dear friend DW. His story was told in last year's newsletter on how he was the first mission that the foundation undertook, raking his leaves each year. DW passed away on July 25, 2020 in his sleep. He was 91 years old. May he rest in peace. "We love you."

# Thanks to our Sponsors & Donors 2019/2020

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