



SWING FOR SHIMMER

#54 HIS FIGHT, OUR FIGHT

Bryan's ALS Journey

Back in April 2023, Bryan recognized a difference in the way his right thumb felt holding a golf club and zipping up his duty boots on shift. Thinking it was nothing more than arthritis or age, we brushed it off. In June, he began to notice consistent, persistent twitching in his right tricep. Vitamin imbalance? Electrolyte deficiency? Pinched Nerve? Of course Google had its own opinion so we scheduled an appointment with his primary physician. This is the first time we heard a doctor say he 'couldn't rule out ALS.' We quickly scheduled an EMG test with the first neurologist we could find followed by a neck MRI. He suggested we visit the Northwestern ALS Clinic.

On July 24, 2023, our entire world was turned upside down. Our journey to a diagnosis was extremely quick as compared to many stories we have read and folks we have met along the way. We understand now how crucial that rapid response was in our journey. Bryan currently participates in the HEALY Platform Clinical Trial and has been taking the FDA approved medications available to help slow the progression. The Les Turner ALS Foundation has been at our side as we navigate the disease that has no roadmap.

Each day we thank God for giving us the opportunity to step back and truly appreciate all that we are blessed with and all the amazing people we have in our lives that support us. We strive to LIVE every day and not focus on what this disease is capable of. We remember the importance of saying 'I love you' every day. We enjoy the little things which have become the big things. We say 'Yes!' instead of 'maybe later.'

For those of you who know Bryan, you know his passion is what drives him. Whether it be his family, his career in the fire service or his golf game, he is in 100%! He never backs away from a challenge and always fights for what he believes in. His passion for helping others that are battling ALS is why we are coming together for the first annual Swing for Shimmer Golf Outing.

This year we are raising funds for the Les Turner ALS Foundation. Their mission is to provide the most comprehensive care and support to people living with ALS and their families so they can confidently navigate the disease, and advance scientific research for the prevention, treatment and cure of ALS.

As of right now, there is no cure for ALS, however, every dollar we can raise will help researchers continue their progress on a cure as well as continue to support families suffering from this disease. Please consider sponsorship, raffle donation, monetary donation or participating in the outing as a golfer to raise funds. All donations are tax deductible. We appreciate your consideration and generosity. His fight is our fight.

Kind Regards,
The Swing for Shimmer Team