

Joe's Story...

We have all heard stories about life changing on a dime. This is a real-life story of a life changing on a few grains of sand. And this story is about a person like you and me.

Like many of us, Joe Groh worked in the HVAC industry for all of his working career. Like you and me, he made an impact on his chosen industry. He began at Lennox where he spent a significant portion of his career - over 20 years. He was a TM in Chicago, a marketing manager in the old Columbus division, a director of the Dealer Marketing Advisor program at corporation and a district manager in the Carolinas and Chicago. And Lennox must have been in the Groh family because Joe's dad was a Territory Manager and his grandfather owned a Lennox dealership in Emporia, Kansas.

Like many of us, Joe and Sue have been married for over 25 years and have raised 3 great kids - a son who is a graduate of Texas A & M, working for a general contractor in Arizona, another son who was attending college at Abilene Christian and now North Texas and a beautiful daughter who is a junior at Carroll Senior High in Southlake.

Like you and me, Joe and his wife Sue work for a living. After leaving Lennox, Joe stayed in the industry working for an Armstrong distributor in Chicago. Then both Joe and his wife, Sue, missed Dallas and Joe went to work for Titus - a manufacturer of large registers and grilles and VAV fan systems for commercial HVAC located in Dallas. His most recent job was as Vice-President of Sales and Marketing at PCI Industries in Fort Worth - a company that manufactures louvers, fire/fire smoke dampers, air control dampers, and sound control products for commercial HVAC applications.

Like many of you and, certainly me, Joe is a baby boomer. And with that age thing comes the need to exercise even more so than when we were young. Joe like some of you is an avid bicyclist, having been riding since he was a child. And that is where the grain of sand comes in.

On Sunday, June 15, 2008, Joe was riding his bicycle on the trails around Grapevine Lake and in his words was "pushing it." His front tire hit a patch of sand, causing his front tire to go off the trail throwing Joe over the handlebars.

Unlike you and me, Joe is now a quadriplegic. For one minute, while you are reading this story, imagine that your body is completely paralyzed and that all you can move are your head and eyes. Visualize how complicated every day life is. Imagine that for a minimum of one year, all your energy must be focused on how to live with your new circumstances, and imagine the on-going medical expenses and cost of technology to enable Joe to continue being a productive, successful person.

Don't feel sorry for Joe. That is absolutely the last thing he wants. Joe doesn't feel sorry for himself. Joe has always been an up-beat, positive, "can do" kind of man and none of that has changed. He is simply entering Chapter 2 of what has already been a productive, successful life. And make no mistake, Joe's strength and support of family, friends and acquaintances, will make Chapter 2 as successful as Chapter 1. But don't underestimate the up-hill climb that every waking moment presents to Joe. And know that more than ever in his life, he needs your prayers and support.

This is the story of a person so like you and me that on a different day, at a different time, in a different environment it could be any of us. Life can change on a grain of sand or it can change as the result of an encouraging word, a note, a phone call, a contribution.



Registration Information

- To register for this event or to donate securely online, please visit: www.MiracleGolfConcepts.com.
- Click on "The 1st Annual Golf Tournament Benefiting The Joseph Groh SCI Fund" and follow the directions to participate as a golfer or fundraiser or to donate.
- After you have registered to play, you may send out emails to those you wish to have sponsor you using the Miracle Golf website.
- The email that potential donors will receive will provide them with details about the event as well as a clickable link enabling them to donate online immediately.
- The Miracle Golf website tracks all donations as well as the prize levels that players achieve.
- Donations can be made online using Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. Players may also collect cash and checks.

All funds/donations must be collected prior to tee time.

Please make all checks payable to:

Joe Groh SCI Fund



For more information or to register for the event, please visit

www.MiracleGolfConcepts.com
or contact: Vicki at (903) 786-6262,
or email: vicki@vleishvac.com

Please connect to Joe's web-site: www.joegrohscifund.org and learn more about how you can help.