

# Benefit!

(silent) Auction & open-mic jam for

## **Sam Singer**

**Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> @ The Loft**

**6 – 7 PM Happy Hour**

**7 – 10 PM Silent Auction**

(art, photo session, sports memorabilia, recording sessions, restaurant certificates, jewelry and more!)

**8 PM – Midnite “Jam for Sam” open-mic**



***Sam Singer III***

***To donate items for the auction, please contact Brad Strickland  
@ 706.718.1816***

***To give direct financial support, Lumpkin United Methodist  
Church, memo Sam Singer Recovery Fund***

***(over)***

**Lumpkin United Methodist Church**  
**P.O. Box 188 Lumpkin, Ga. 31815-0188**

Sam Singer III is my brother and a local musician that has supported Uptown Columbus for many years. Sam is 29 years old and moved to Columbus in 1998. He's played bass guitar since he was 14 growing up in Lumpkin Georgia, and has played with many bands here in Columbus, most recently playing with the Shadowville Allstars. Sam has been a resident of the Historic District since 2000 and has supported the downtown community in many ways.

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, my wife and I purchased our first home. On September 15<sup>th</sup>, we invited some friends over to help paint. Sam was determined to go swimming that night since we worked the previous weekend without getting a chance to swim. Sam dove into the pool from the side of the deep-end at an angle towards the shallow-end. Since none of us had ever been swimming in the pool, no one was sure of its depth. We watched as Sam dove into the pool and then floated to the surface. We all thought that Sam was playing a joke on us as we stood watching him move his head and arms face down in the water. I remember someone saying that he turned his head to the side to get some air as we still thought he was joking. After about a minute and a half, Sam quit moving. We realized then that Sam wasn't joking. Essentially, Sam drowned after the impact and had no pulse when I pulled him from the pool. Thankfully, one of our friends there that night is a respiratory therapist and my wife was a life guard for several years in high school. I feel that it is no coincidence that a nurse and ex-lifeguard were there that night because they saved my brother's life. Sam was taken to the Medical Center where they determined that he had crushed his C5 vertebra and suffered catastrophic damage to his spinal cord. It was then that we were told that Sam would be a quadriplegic.

Given the injury, Sam was transferred to the Shepherd Center in Atlanta, which is arguably the best spinal cord rehabilitation center in the country. Today, Sam is at the Shepherd Center rehabbing from the accident. He has an absolutely amazing spirit about him. He has accepted what happened that night and is happy to be alive. It's not what you can't do, it's what you can do but in a different way. You can't hold back the smile when you see his face. He is an inspiration in so many ways.

Your support is important because Sam now faces what could be the biggest obstacle of his life. The cost of care that he has received is astronomical. He will need medical care and further rehabilitation, as well as modifications to his home and equipment such as lifts, a van, and ramps. Your support is greatly needed. – *George Singer*

**Thank-you!**