

Raising Awareness Through Music

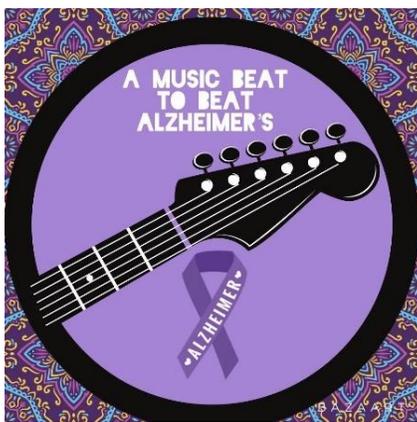
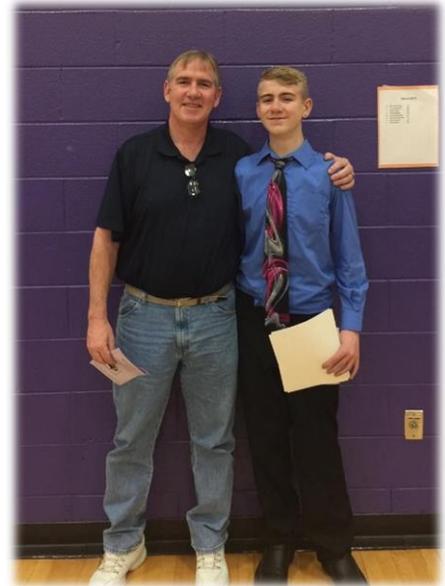
Austin Drevs, Green Bay

Austin's father, Scott, was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's ten years ago at the age of 45. His doctors told him he wouldn't live to be 52. Now at age 55, Scott is "kicking Alzheimer's butt," according to his son. Austin, 18, is extremely close with his father. He is leaving for boot camp in the Marine Corps in October, for a 5-year commitment. Before he leaves, he wanted to do something for his dad to raise awareness in the community.

A Music Beat to Beat Alzheimer's

"Music has always been a big thing for my dad and I," Austin shared. "The idea of writing music actually came about after my dad got me into poetry. The impact of the written word is so powerful. In high school my dad and I wrote a poetry reading together – my dad talking about his struggle with dementia and me talking about life after dementia hits. I performed the piece at State Forensics and got first place. After that I started writing my own music."

"I consider myself a hip-hop artist and write music over a beat," Austin said. "I decided to host an event around music to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association. I've read many things about how people with Alzheimer's can understand music and connect to it. I decided music is what would make an impact."



Austin is hosting a 12-hour music event on May 8th at the Watering Hole in Green Bay. The event is supporting The Longest Day fundraising event for the Alzheimer's Association. Austin will be performing and has organized six additional performers, raffles and more activities to raise funds and awareness. To donate to his event, visit: <http://bit.ly/Musicbeat>

"I encourage everyone to consider a fundraiser for The Longest Day," Austin shared. "Regardless of how much you make, you are raising awareness. We have to stay hopeful and keep thinking we can stop this terrible disease for the next generation."

The Alzheimer's Association salutes Austin and his efforts to support The Longest Day. Thank you for helping us fight the darkness of Alzheimer's.

