

SAM SAMOYA
ST. TERESA OF AVILA

I feel I am always making a difference in people's lives, everyday. My name is Sam Samoya, I've been through rough times, sometimes you can't even imagine. My brother, Tony, died in 1998 unexpectedly during heart surgery. It was a shock to my family. I want to try to make a difference in other people's lives to make them happy, because when their happy, I'm happy.

I make people laugh a lot of times. It's fun being a funny guy. It's great seeing smiles on people's faces. I've been through another rough time; it's when my parents got divorced. I didn't know what was going on at the time, but now I know what happened. After all of those rough times, I still stay strong and live my life. I still see my dad many times and he's still fun to be around. Sometimes when I'm down, I can rely on my friends to make me happier, because their fun to chill out with.

I've made a difference in elderly people's lives, too. I served the elderly by volunteering at Eldermount Adult Daycare by setting up a themes for the following day. One theme was Christmas in July. I helped decorate with ornaments and wreaths. This summer I'm going to help my Mom with a mission trip in the Appalachian Mountains to help raise money for the poor. I also served at my brother Tony's 5k run, that was fun. There is a Tony Samoya Scholarship fund at St. Teresa that gives away two scholarships in my brother's name. The 5k helps raise money for the fund. My friends were work with me at the 5k.

The biggest difference I want to make in people's lives is by becoming a soldier. I want to become an infantryman officer. I want everybody to be proud of me. I want to fight to protect everyone's freedom, and freedom always makes a difference in people's lives. I want other soldiers to look up to me. As a serviceman, I will make a difference in other soldiers, and in civilian's lives.

I've been a great Catholic. I go to mass and confession regularly. I got confirmed on January 18, 2008. It made huge difference in myself by getting confirmed. I feel like I'm a real soldier since I picked George to be my confirmation name, because St. George was a soldier. He went through hard times during the Crusades, and I strive to be strong like him. I would like to help my mom pay for my high school tuition. She pays for all of my tuition by herself. She is a schoolteacher, and the money would really help out. This am going go Elder High School next year, and I hope that I can be awarded this scholarship.