

# Friends In Need

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## F O U N D A T I O N

Friends,

23 years ago, our friend, Jeff Heap, was in a swimming pool accident. Since this tragic accident causing a spinal cord injury, Jeff has been a quadriplegic. There are varying degrees of paralysis within the term quadriplegic ... Jeff has no feeling from the chest down and he has the use of his arms, but not his fingers. Jeff has always had a great attitude which enables him to drive, work at the US Army Corps of Engineers everyday and maintain an active social life.

After 23 years of pushing a wheelchair, Jeff's shoulders are starting to wear down. He has rotator cuff damage and it is very painful for him to do everyday things like get out of bed, transfer in and out of his chair, and of course, push his chair. Jeff would benefit greatly from the new iBot wheelchair. ([www.ibotnow.com](http://www.ibotnow.com)) The iBot is a robotic wheelchair that can do great things such as climb stairs and curbs, ride through sand and grass and most notably, stand on 2 wheels and self balance. Imagine that after over 20 years of being in a wheelchair you can finally have a conversation at eye level in social situations. The iBot will give Jeff the ability to do this and so much more.

We are trying to defray the cost of the iBot chair as much as possible. As you can imagine the chair and accessories do not come cheap. The chair costs at least \$30,000. And the specialized van that is needed to accommodate it is at least an additional \$55,000.

We are holding a fundraiser on Thursday, December 4, 2008, from 6:00-9:00PM at The House of Broel, 2220 St. Charles Avenue. Tickets are \$50/person and include food, and an open bar with beer, wine and soft drinks and also include a door prize. There will also be live and silent auctions. We are asking for donations for the auctions, so if you, or someone you know, has a product or service you are willing to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

For additional information or to make a donation please visit the Friends in Need website [www.friendinneed.org](http://www.friendinneed.org) Tickets may be purchased at [www.friendinneed.org](http://www.friendinneed.org) using PayPal or by mailing a check payable to Friends in Need (indicate in the memo Jeff Heap) to P.O. Box 56475, Metairie, LA 70055. The Friends in Need Foundation is a tax exempt 501-c-3 organization - our tax ID number is 72-1387553.



Thank you for your support,  
Friends of Jeff Heap  
[www.friendinneed.org](http://www.friendinneed.org)

