



## **Lucas Sawyer**

Hometown  
**Simpsonville, KY**

Branch of Service  
**Army**

Division  
**Novice**

Sports  
**Basketball, Archery**

I was diagnosed with MS Valentine's day, 2008, shortly after my Iraq deployment. I was completely crushed. My life felt over and I faced severe depression. Despite many pharmaceutical therapies, nothing helped. I started to have mobility issues in 2015. I wanted to give up.

Through the Spinal Cord Clinic at my local VA, I was introduced to adaptive sports. They introduced me to the local PVA and they sent me to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Cincinnati in the Summer of 2017 as a spectator. I was skeptical at first thinking that my severe fatigue I wouldn't be able to play many sports.

Veterans of all injuries and abilities competed and I thought to myself that I could do that too. I started practicing with the local team at the Louisville Metro Parks Berry Town Rec Center and fell in love with Wheel Chair Basketball. I also enjoy archery. It's great being part of a team and meeting other veterans with similar problems to what I face.

PVA is a great organization that has helped me not to be a shut in any longer and feel as if I matter! They have given me a part of my life back that I never thought I would get back having mobility issues. Thanks for everything you do PVA and see you all at the NVW games Louisville 2019!

Additional Information  
[www.wheelchairgames.org](http://www.wheelchairgames.org)  
[www.kipva.org](http://www.kipva.org)  
502-635-6539



**Paralyzed Veterans  
of America**

Kentucky-Indiana Chapter