



# I am a Hard Worker.

We are his advocate.



**Luke Spaugh** is always happy to help and is an absolute foodie. He turned his love of eating at Jimmy John's into a part-time job by applying with the help of his mom, Elizabeth. With a personal motto of "freaky fast," Luke stacks meats, cleans tables and prepares sandwiches and wraps. Even though his shifts only last a few hours, he never fails to put a smile on his coworkers' and customers' faces. He adores everyone he works with and loves meeting new people.



Not only does Luke bring joy and inspiration to his coworkers and customers, but he has also inspired his family members and their careers. His oldest sister, Leslie, now works with the surgeon who performed both of Luke's open-heart surgeries when he was a child. His twin, Emily, works at Indiana University at the Institute for Korean Studies. She is a North Korean human rights advocate and is specifically interested in the human rights abuses against people with developmental disabilities in North Korea.

As an avid student of politics, Luke spends his free time reading about important political figures and watching the news. He recently had the opportunity to travel to Jefferson City and meet with the current Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House. His goal is to visit every presidential museum and he has set his sights on visiting Washington, D.C. with his family in the future.

While he loves his job and his hobbies, nothing is more important to Luke than his family. He is so proud to be a twin and an uncle. Whether it's watching Disney Plus or playing games, Luke's favorite activity is spending time with the people who love him.

Luke's family serve as his primary advocates, and they rely on Developmental Disability Advocates and Jefferson County service providers whenever they need additional support. When Luke required respite care services as a child, his parents were grateful for the services provided through NextStep for Life.

Luke's mom, Elizabeth, sits on the board of directors for Developmental Disability Advocates and is one of Luke's main role models. Luke wants to follow in his mom's footsteps and become an advocate for other people with developmental disabilities, ensuring they have every opportunity to lead a rich and fulfilling life.

