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Letter of Recommendation for Chris Norton

It is an honor to write this letter of recommendation for Chris Norton. Rarely have I seen in a young adult, such a great commitment to succeed, along with the passion to help others do the same.

It was in the fall of 2012 that I first met Chris, two years after his injury. He wanted to meet Craig Culver, because he was a fan of Culver's restaurants and a friend of the owner of Culver's in Decorah, Iowa. I went along on the visit, primarily because I was intrigued with this story of courage and determination.

From the moment we met, I knew his was a story that needed to be told. And as I spoke with Chris and learned about his goals for recovery, I also learned of his mission to help others receive the same quality care he was given, which enabled him to take his first steps towards healing.

On the spot, I asked Chris to consider telling his story to a group of scholarship recipients and their family and friends at our annual Culver's VIP Scholarship Program and Reception. He said yes, and while I had no idea what his speaking skills were like, or if he even enjoyed getting up in front of a group of people, I knew he was thankful and passionate about who he was and what he still had to accomplish, and that alone would carry him through.

He delivered an outstanding message about responding to adversity. It was meaningful to each person in the room because we all face adversity...life challenges in our lives in some degree. Chris says that "What determines your success and happiness is how you respond to adversity."

The message that keeps coming back to me is, "Your present circumstances don't determine where you go, they merely determine where you start"...great wisdom from such a young soul.

Chris shares his message with a sincere and thankful heart. If you are looking for a speaker to deliver a message of courage and determination, of passion and commitment, I highly recommend Chris Norton.

Wholeheartedly,

Lea Culver
Culver's Co-Founder

Craig Culver
Culver's Co-Founder

