"He was a man among men. Your dad was a giant."

Quote of the Month

"I am neither an optimist nor a pessimist, but a possibilist."

- Max Lerner

Media of the Month

StoryCorps: The Starkloffs

Listen to the story [here](https://storycorps.org/). (02:47)

Some of you may already be familiar with StoryCorps - the monumental effort to record and preserve stories of American life. Since 2003, StoryCorps has collected and archived more than 50,000 short interviews with over 90,000 participants of all walks of life - each conducted between friends or family members. These conversations are preserved at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, and on their website.

This month, we bring you one such conversation between a mother and daughter. Colleen Starkloff was working at a nursing home when she met her future husband, Max Starkloff. He was tall, gorgeous, and paralyzed in all four of his limbs. Colleen speaks candidly with her daughter, Meaghan, about some of the challenges and joys of their life together.

Three Reasons Why This is Worth Listening To
1. Colleen speaks of Max's virility and masculinity, describing him in ways we often don't associate with people with disabilities.

2. Colleen and Max are brave and bold in their decision to throw out the social worker who tells them they would be unfit parents and continue on their journey to adoption.

3. Ultimately, the story Colleen shares is of love and family. When Colleen's mother tells her that "you marry a person because you love them, not to be their nurse," Colleen reponds "I love him. I won't be his nurse, I'll be his partner. I'll be the mother of his children."

We hope you find this Media and Disability information useful. If you know of media that you think should be featured in our newsletter, feel free to let us know!

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