



The Will To Live Foundation, Inc.

“For The Kids, Through The Kids, By The Kids”



John Trautwein’s Speech Topic & Bio “A Positive Passion & Will”

“A Positive Passion & Will” Speech Topic: John Trautwein’s speech/presentation entitled “A Positive Passion & Will” is designed for both teenagers and the trusted adults in teenagers lives (Parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles, coaches, teachers, counselors, ministers, pastors, scout masters, etc.). By telling his personal story about losing his teenaged son to suicide in October of 2010, John focuses on what he learned as a grieving parent who was unaware of the issues that faced not only his son but millions of teens across America: The three main points of the presentation are:

1. The fact that mental health illnesses such as depression that lead to teen suicide are unfortunately extremely common in America and no-one talks about it.
2. The challenges that teens in America face today growing up in a very difficult world, and the importance of teens reaching out to each other (talking and listening) – because the people that truly understand what a teen is going through in today’s society – are their friends, and yes, talking to a friend is easier than talking to an adult.
3. The importance of the positive role the trusted adults in the lives of these teens can play, simply by being aware.

John’s speech is designed to be a very positive and motivational despite originating from a very tragic event and topic. It has been very well received by hundreds of audiences across America. As a former major league baseball player (Boston Red Sox) and successful international business man who has lived in Germany, the UK, and many cities, across America, John is able to weave in stories of “Life Teammates” and positive focus and motivation into his presentations. His speech is truly meant to help his audience increase their Will To Live.

“I have had the pleasure of seeing John Speak on three occasions. WOW what a message! As a coach and financial services professional for over 30 plus years, I have seen hundreds of prominent CEO’s, Keynote Speakers and College and Professional Coaches speak. John is hands down one of my top three speakers I have had the pleasure to witness. His thoughtful and moving presentation is incredible and he hits all the positive notes you want to aspire to as a coach and mentor of young people. Go and see him as soon as you can!”

- ***Lou Corsetti, Coaching Coordinator, Atlanta Youth Lacrosse, US Lacrosse Convention Committee Chair, 2012, GA Lacrosse HOF Member***

To read more reviews of John’s speeches and the positive impact he’s leaving on audiences everywhere click here and visit the Will To Live Foundation’s website:

<http://will-to-live.org/what-they-are-saying/>



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John Trautwein’s Bio

- A native of the Chicago area (Barrington, IL), John, along with his wife Susie moved to Johns Creek, GA in 1997. He is the proud father of four beautiful children, and President of Source Support Services, a global IT Services company headquartered in the Atlanta area (Lawrenceville, GA).
- In October 2010, John and his family suffered the tragic loss of his oldest child, his 15 year old Son, Will, who took his own life. Will, a strong, popular and successful young man was a freshman at Northview High School, and his death devastated not only the Trautwein’s but the entire community.
- As a result, John and his wife Susie started a nonprofit foundation called “The Will To Live Foundation” to work closely with the kids, through the kids of our community to not only help spread the message of teen suicide awareness in our community but also help these teens recognize the wonderful bonds of friendship we call “life teammate bonds” that help each other find the good in life!
- John is a Graduate of Northwestern University and an Ex professional baseball player, playing 7 years in the Expos and Red Sox organizations, including pitching for the 1988 American League East Champion Boston Red Sox. His wife Susie was a lacrosse and Field hockey player for the University of VA, thus you'll understand why the foundation’s message is so focused on the concept of “teammates” whether it be sports, clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth groups, churches, bands, orchestras, choirs or families, Life Teammates are in our lives today!
- Since the foundation started, John has been making well over 100 speeches and presentations annually to high school students, college students, teams of all kinds, parents, coaches, teachers in communities across America. He has mastered the ability to deliver the Will To Live Foundation’s message of “love” and “hope” and being there for each other.

“John’ compelling message to young people comes from his heart. He has always had a passion for youth and now he combines that passion with a life experience to reach out through the “Will To Live” Foundation. His message to his audiences about loving one another is not only strong and full of impact but it also motivates them to establish caring relationships with their peers.”

- Ron Wellman, Director of Athletics, Wake Forest University

- John has turned the tragedy of the loss of his son, into a positive message that improves the lives and the Will To Live of kids everywhere. The “kids of Will To Live” have raised over \$1,000,000 in an effort to raise awareness, increase education and deliver hope to each other, and their efforts have funded the acclaimed “Signs of Suicide” Program in schools not only in Atlanta but all over the country.
- The Will to Live Foundation has been recognized nationally on CNN, Major League Baseball, The Big Ten Network, and Fox Sports, just to name a few. In 2012, John and his wife Susie were awarded the “**Presidential Point of Light**” award for their work with the Will To Live Foundation.



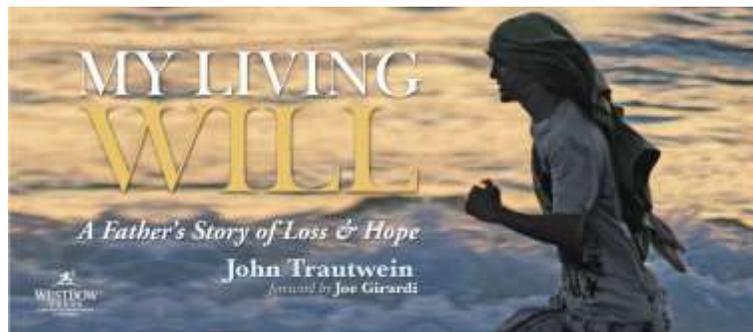
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MY LIVING WILL – A Father’s Story of Loss & Hope – By John Trautwein

- In late 2014, Westbow press released the story of the Trautwein family and The Will To Live Foundation is found in the critically acclaimed book “MY LIVING WILL – A Father’s story of loss & hope” by John Trautwein. Like John’s speeches, and the events of the Will to Live Foundation, MY LIVING WILL has also succeeded in inspiring its readers to increase the Will To Live of the teenagers and Life Teammates® in their lives.



- My Living Will is the story of former major league pitcher John Trautwein, and the unbelievable tragedy which befell him and his family when his fifteen-year-old son, Will, took his own life. There had been no warnings, no obvious signs of anxiety, depression, or unhappiness; nothing. A family and a community were left stunned as they pondered how a young man like Will Trautwein, a healthy, happy, popular, athletic, and musical teenager, who came from such a loving home, could lose the will to live.

“John Trautwein writes straight from the heart. And his words will save lives. The story Trautwein shares in these pages—a remarkable journey of passion and purpose—will literally save lives.”

- Jeffrey Marx, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of Season of Life

“This is one of the most thought provoking books I have read. Every person who has any contact with young people should take time to read it. It opened my eyes to so many things and I always thought my eyes were open!”

- Jennifer Blazek, school teacher, Fulton County, GA

“In my twenty-two years of broadcasting, I have told many stories of triumph over tragedy, but the story of Will Trautwein and his family has stayed with me. The loss of such a vibrant young man and the strength of his family to use their heartache to help has had an impact on how I parent my daughter, and how I report stories of teenage depression and suicide. This is a must-read if you have a teenager in your life.”

- Stephany Fisher, Anchor, CBS News, Atlanta

- My Living Will is for sale at all of John’s speeches, and can be purchased on Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com or on the Will To Live Foundation’s website: <http://will-to-live.org/my-living-will/>



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A Father’s Story of Hope!



John and Susie Trautwein –
Founders of the Will To Live Foundation



John and Will Trautwein – May 2010



John having fun with the audience, Blessed Trinity High School, 2016



The Trautwein Family, April 2010



John Trautwein with the Boston Red Sox - 1988



John Trautwein
Giving his “Life Teammates” Speech

To learn more about John Trautwein’s speaking engagements, please visit us on-line at
<http://will-to-live.org/speaking-engagements/>