



## The Lujan Family

Battling: 8-year-old, Sam

Samuel's family is made up of his brother Silas, who is three years old, his mom, Maria, and dad, Ramon. Sam's mom describes him as unique, a persistent fighter, and courageous.

Sam has had various life-altering issues happen throughout his young life. Sam began his health battle at three when he was diagnosed with Autism. Maria says this made him unique. Two years later, when Sam was five years old, he was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a fatal disease that causes muscle degeneration. Sam's mom said this diagnosis made him a

persistent fighter. Then, two years after, Sam now faced a new diagnosis, T-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

Samuel is currently the only known child his age to have a dual diagnosis of muscular dystrophy and cancer. This dual diagnosis made him courageous, according to his mom.

At only eight years old now, Sam has faced significant adversity. Going through the treatment for cancer has affected his body. He now has osteoporosis, which has left him with several fractures causing him to become wheelchair bound. Because of this new handicap, Maria has had to quit her job to be a full-time caregiver. Having a family and losing an income is very challenging in itself. Even more difficult is the task ahead of having to make their home wheelchair accessible, to make life a little easier getting around. These substantial financial changes and obligations have put Christmas on the bottom of the priorities list.

This year we join to help this family have a wonderful Christmas!