



MOSS CREEK MARINES SCRAPBOOK

Wounded Marine needs your help today

By **PATRICK DONOHUE**

pdonohue@beaufortgazette.com
843-986-5531

PORT ROYAL. — Organizers are hoping Beaufort's military community will turn out Saturday to help a Marine critically wounded in combat.

Live Oaks Park in Port Royal will host the Marine Sgt. Eddie Ryan Benefit Concert from 1 to 7 p.m. today. Featuring Spike Ivory and Friends and Kirk O'Leary, Bluffton deputy fire commissioner, the event is a fundraiser for Ryan, a Marine sniper wounded in Iraq in 2006.

An Ellenville, N.Y., native and Parris Island graduate, Ryan

IF YOU GO

What: Marine Sgt. Eddie Ryan Benefit Concert

Where: Live Oaks Park, Port Royal

When: 1-7 p.m. today

Admission: \$10 adults, children under 10 free

was shot twice in the head in a sniper attack in April 2006 on a rooftop in Al Qaim, a town northwest of Baghdad.

Ryan was shot below the jaw



Ryan

and above the eye.

Though he was able to get off of a life support system in less than a month, Ryan has had to undergo intensive and costly physical therapy that the Veterans' Administration has been hesitant to pay for and his family can't afford, said Steve Mangione, one of the event's organizers.

It is the first time a fundraiser has been held for Ryan in the Beaufort area, where both he and his father graduated from basic training.

Three poker runs have been

held for Ryan in Carteret, N.J.

The fundraiser moved south when one of the organizers, musician Ivory, moved to Bluffton.

"We've committed ourselves to going out and helping the Ryans with whatever they need," said Jeri LaMorte-Kopin, a lead organizer. "We want to raise awareness about traumatic brain injury. We have come so far with technology but the facilities that we have have not kept up with the knowledge."

Ryan's injuries have confined him to a wheelchair, but the former Marine sniper is beginning to regain movement in his hands and feet, Mangione said.

**SGT EDDIE RYAN
BENEFIT
August 2, 2008**

This is an actual letter written
by my son, Marine Sgt. Eddie Ryan.
Our "Miracle" Marine!

He had lost all use of his limbs due to
a devastating injury during combat missions
in Iraq 2005.

At present, he has use of his left hand, but tough
for him as he is normally right-handed.

We thank you for your prayers and support.
And most of all we thank God for his mercy,
who, by His love and grace spared our son's
life. We are so blessed to have him.

You can visit our website to learn
more about our "miracle" and get a close-up
look at this amazing story @ www.helpeddieryan.com
We were also featured on an HBO Documentary
which premiered on Sept. 9th 2007 produced by
Mr. James Gandolfini Called: ALIVE DAY MEMORIES:
(www.hbo.com) HOME FROM IRAQ

God Bless you

Sincerely
Angie Ryan

Thank you and God Bless you ten-fold for your
most generous donation! It will help the Sgt. in
getting the therapies he needs.

Blessings & COO-RAN Marines!!

Dear Mr. Mott & Brother Mariner,

I thank you for
your kindness and
support. I really
appreciate all
the cards and prayers
that I receive. Your
support and encourage-
ment helps to motivate
me to get better.

Thank you + Semper Fi.

Sgt. Eddie Ryan