



Whether you know him as Mark or Marky – he’s North Hill’s greatest Fan!

Mark lives in North Hill with his Ardmore Inc. Foster / Shared Living Provider, Aretta Harrison and has received supports from Vern Appleton, Ardmore case coordinator for the past 12 years.

After leaving the Summit DD Akron Center, you can find Mark at Louie’s Bar & Grill. He grabs dinner, socializes with customers, and helps clear the ketchup from the tables at the end of the night. Louie has known Marky for over 30 years, ever since his kids were growing up playing baseball down at the park. Recently [Louie’s](#) hosted Mark’s 55th birthday party, arranging for a whole box of birthday cards for Mark to open that day! Check out their Facebook page for some great pictures and videos of that day.

Emma McFarland and Ben Mason, U of A Speech-Language Pathology graduate students & interns with Ardmore’s Advocacy program, have recently been accompanying Mark to North High School events. North High School is one of Mark’s most beloved places. Mark attends almost every sporting event, concert, and show and has done so for years. When Ben and Emma visited North High for the first time with Mark, they entered a busy and bustling school expecting to be a bit overwhelmed by the new environment and activity. But, with Mark, they were introduced to every person that passed by. Says Ben, “He knows every administrator and janitor and what his or her role is in the school. He is so proud to be involved.” Sasianna Meadows, a Junior at North High, mentioned that, “Everyone knows Mark, and when he isn’t around, people notice and miss him. He always checks in on me and asks how my grandparents are doing. He can even tell me my grandpa’s old football stats.”

According to Ben, Mark’s contribution to his community is never doubted. Mark supports his friends, North high school and his neighborhood shops and proprietors, but the relationship works both ways – they also look out for him. Mark’s friendly small talk and helping hand are a reassurance that, “You are important” and a part of his North Hill family.