

## **PATRICK ARNOLD**

I was born on October 31, 1988 in Huntington, WV. I was born with a neuroblastoma (cancerous tumor). At the age of two weeks I had my first surgery. At the age of three I had bowel obstruction. My family and I moved down to Sarasota Florida right before my fifth birthday. We lived in Sarasota for eleven years. When I was twelve my travel team went to Cooperstown, NY. During this trip I started to have leg pains, I played for a full year with the pains until one day I was pitching in a Babe Ruth game in Huntington, WV and all of a sudden both my legs locked up. I had an MRI the next day. The same day my biggest supporter, my grandmother passed away. The MRI showed I had four tumors lodged into my tail-bone and a cord that ran through my spinal cord to a fifth tumor on my pelvic region. They removed bone from L4 to S4 and removed 95 percent of the tumors in my tail-bone but left the one on my pelvic bone which still remains there to this day. I've had a total of five surgeries. We moved back to Huntington, WV where I attended Huntington High School. I signed with NC State, I was selected in the 15th round by the Washington Nationals. I decided to sign with the Nationals. The day after I signed both my best friends died in a car crash on their way back from a senior trip, which I flew home early from to sign. I was supposed to be in the car. I now own Aces Baseball Academy in Huntington, WV. I run it till I have to report to season.