



Name: Court Abram and Matt August

Tell us about yourself: Court and Matt are both Kelowna residents and feel strongly about giving back to their community and coming together to support each other.

What was your style of dance and why did you choose that one? We chose a Luke Bryan song – we both like Country and felt like this would be a fun and upbeat song to get the audience involved!

How did you first learn about Swinging with the Stars? Matt sits on the COHA board and has attended the event a handful of times – and just knew this year was the year to dance!

What was your connection to COHA at that time? Matt's Uncle passed away in 2015, and at that time COHA supported Uncle Gary and the family in a difficult time with such compassion and empathy. This sparked Matt and his sister Michelle to start the August Family foundation and get more involved with giving back.

What is your favourite memory from your performance? The dance rehearsals leading up to the event were so much fun. We shared a lot of laughs and worked hard, knowing we only had a few months to learn a 2-minute routine. 2 minutes may not seem like a long time, but it felt like a 10-minute routine! We do have to say though, the night was so fun! It brought so many emotions for both us. Nerves from dancing in front of some many people and excitement to dance in front of family and friends and all knowing the money raised was going to an incredible charity.

Are you still dancing today? We had hopes to continue to dance after Swinging with the Stars and even talked to our coach about a few dances we'd like to learn – however, lockdown stopped us from moving forward with that plan

What backstage moments stand out to you today? Right before we went out to dance, the group of dancers in our routine and the two of us gathered in a circle and did a loud COHA cheer. It was an incredible moment together and got us ready to go perform!

Has this experience inspired you to do other life changing things? Oh yes, we continue to support our community as much as we can. On Dec 14, we hosted the 5th annual Cars and Toys event at August Motorcars and got very creative with a Santa Raceway!