## **Features**



## A True Hero

MAY 28TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

A True Hero

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer

**Lilbourn, Missouri** – Many of you have come to know Brendan Wallis over the past few months. Today should have been a wonderful celebration of his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday, but early this morning God called him to heaven. Now we celebrate his life and how he touched so many of us with his smile!

Brendan was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma Stage IV and attended Lilbourn Elementary School. He was an amazing "lil joker" who loved life. He was strong, brave and loved the St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Team. He was first diagnosed in 2004 and spent several years in remission, but his family learned in May of 2012 his cancer had returned. When he looked at you and smiled, you could not help but return a smile!

No one really knows the pain that a family endures when a child is struck with Cancer. We pray for them, we support them, we raise money to help with the financial burden, and we encourage them to continue their fight when the struggle becomes unbearable. And when the pain is too much, God calls his children to heaven to end their suffering. It's hard to understand how a disease can hurt so many, but we persevere and along the way we meet so many heroes.

Scott Kruse, 18 Fore Life said, "Smiles like Brendan's are priceless." Brendan was a true hero and his smile would warm your heart.

There is a Brendan Wallis fund set up at Regions Bank in New Madrid for anyone that is interested in donating to help Brendan and his family.

You can mail cards and send condolences to Brendan's family at PO Box 421, Parma, MO 63870. Funeral arrangements are being made and we will post as soon as we know.

Our prayers are with Tim, Lisa, Samantha, Richard Benjamin and Brendan's family and friends during this difficult time. You will be missed by many.

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