

Little Star Foundation “Your Example”

Fall/Winter 2024 2024 marks 39th Year Helping Children with Cancer, Families, Caregivers & Communities

In this issue: A Mom's Intuition, Tenacity & Love shared with Andrea. Multiple Programs in Action Helping Hundreds of Families in the Children's Cancer Community of Hurricane Impacted Florida. Daily, Long-Term & Emergency Care Provided Nationwide with Your Help.



Happy Season to you! Whether it's rain or shine, Little Star Foundation is working year round to bring Daily, Emergency and Long-Term Care to the children cancer community nationwide and globally.

Continuing with the 39 year tradition of coast to coast free Programs Little Star Foundation's year round Programs include:

- Financial Assistance
- Meals
- Ground Transportation
- Educational, Sports, Arts, Health and Therapeutic Activities and Programs
- Medical Assistance
- Daily, Emergency and Long-Term Care, Essential Supplies and Care-giving Support.

With your help these important, life saving and life improving Programs are possible. Thank you!

Donate Today!

Donate today to make a difference and improve the lives of children with cancer.

At Little Star Foundation it is very common for a mom to share how a mom's intuition, tenacity and love help her child and family.

Andrea asking Austin's Mom: "How did you first learn of your child's cancer?"

"Austin was sick for 5 weeks. We had 7 appointments with 5 different doctors. We were told he had allergies. I knew he didn't have allergies and I spent a lot of time looking up things to have the doctors look into... Lyme disease, blocked salivary glands, etc. We told the doctors he felt like he couldn't breathe and one suggested buying a dehumidifier. It was an extremely difficult and frustrating time. He had so many concerning symptoms.

Finally, we saw a doctor that we had seen 3 weeks prior and the doctor saw that Austin looked worse and ordered imaging tests. We got the results. Austin had a large mass in his chest and it was affecting his breathing. Once we got the results it felt like the entire world collapsed, but it was also a relief to finally have answers so we could start to fight it."



Picture caption: Austin in the hospital with mom, 3 hours after being born.

Donate to Little Star at www.littlestar.org

Andrea: "What has been the hardest part since your child's diagnosis?"

Austin's Mom: "There has been nothing easy in the past 14 months, but the worst parts have been the constant fear. I'm constantly checking his temperature and asking him how he feels. Also, knowing that he has a tremendous amount of feelings that he keeps to himself. Austin has been hospitalized multiple times. It's a feeling of constant worry as well as not being able to do enough."

Andrea: "Do you have a prayer, saying or quote that has helped you?"

Austin's Mom: "I always tell Austin 'even the worst day is one step closer to the end of this! It'll get better and one day this will all be a memory.' It has been awful. Just awful. No doctor would take us seriously for the first 5 weeks Austin was sick. Those and other nights I just cried. I work at a mental health agency night shift and missing work is part of it. I am a single mom now. I was married when Austin was diagnosed. The entire family gets impacted and tough decisions are made during very stressful awful times."

Andrea: "What Words of Wisdom would you give to any parent going through what you are?"

Austin's Mom: "To not feel guilty. Do not think of all the things you could/should/would have done differently. We all do the best we can. To be positive and as strong as you can. Cry and vent whenever you need to. And just love and comfort however, your child needs/wants you to."

Andrea: "If qualified to receive financial assistance from Little Star Foundation what would the funds be used for?"

Austin's Mom: "Rent and/or my electric bill. I'm so used to being self sufficient. I have missed a lot of work due to Austin's different hospitalizations and I need help with bills."

Andrea: "What special saying, prayer or Words of Wisdom does Austin share that are encouraging and helpful for your family and others?"

Austin's Mom: "Austin has a saying that puts everything into perspective. When I had a flat tire, a cold or something minor, Austin always replies, 'at least it's not cancer'. It really makes minor problems seem even more silly."

Ways to receive Little Star Foundation News via email & Ways to Donate

Little Star Foundation can deliver updates & announcements directly to your email.

You can get every monthly issue by simply providing your email address. Email me, Andrea Jaeger, at info@littlestar.org and together we can save printing, mail costs and trees while you stay informed and enjoy the good being done together.

Want to Donate?

* You can donate securely online at www.littlestar.org

* You can mail a check to:
Attn: Andrea Jaeger
Little Star Foundation
174 Watercolor Way
Suite 103 #343
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

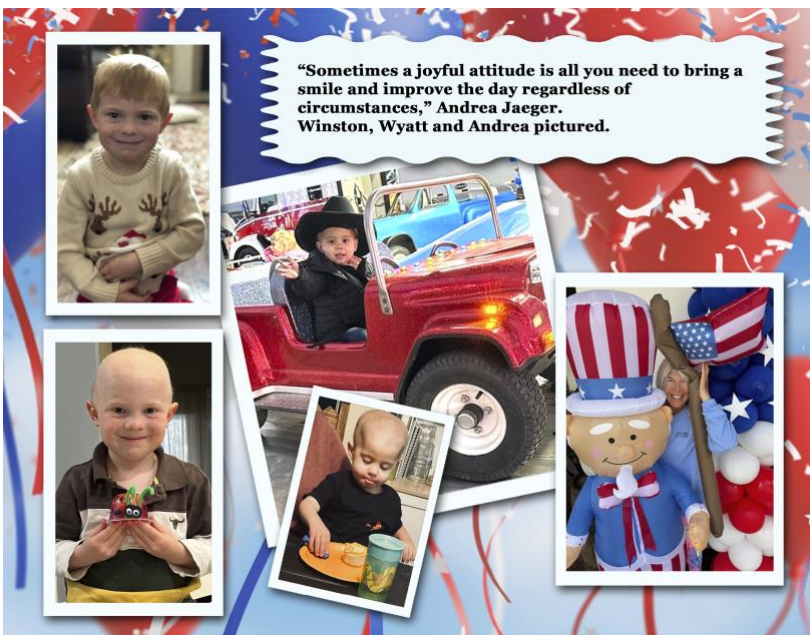
* Additional contact for Andrea Jaeger at 800-543-6565 & info@littlestar.org



www.littlestar.org

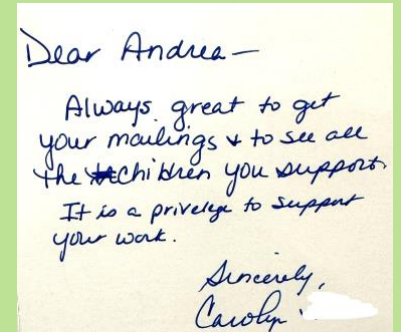
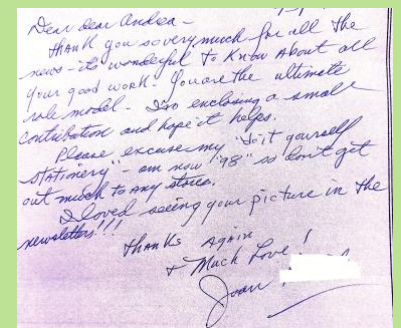
The original, annual and free, inspirational and educational Little Star Foundation 2025 Wall Calendar is completed. Heartwarming information and life enhancing messaging are included. Adriana and I picked as many of the family's favorite pictures as we could fit in. Copies are provided for free to hospitals, schools, care centers, families and communities nationwide and globally. Creative artworks by Adriana are included.

Do you have a specific children's hospital, mailing address and/or family you want free copies mailed to? If so contact me. Here are a few Calendar pages and the entire 2025 Little Star Foundation Wall Calendar is available to view on www.littlestar.org.



Here is the direct link to view Little Star Foundation's Wall Calendar filled with inspiring and cherished moments for you to be part of and enjoy:

<http://agendabook.littlestar.org/books/ajbb>



Little Star Foundation is helping Austin and his mom with financial assistance. In the next issue hear an update on Austin and stories about other children with cancer and their families across the country you are part of bringing important, needed and appreciated support to. Additionally, three projects are in motion to help hundreds of families in the children's cancer community impacted by the hurricanes in Florida. Announcements at www.littlestar.org provide more Program News.

Next year is a celebratory year - the 40th Anniversary of helping children with cancer, their families and communities and children in need. It would have been special for my mom and dad to see and be part of the specialized and researched Programs Little Star Foundation will provide in the exciting celebratory 40th year. With my mom passing recently, and my dad passing several decades ago, I know they are still cheering me and the children on. In my immediate family, my sister, a Stanford graduate, Physician Assistant and all around amazing person continues her loving and giving ways to me and Little Star Foundation. As does the talented psychology major graduate and over 40 years in management experienced VP. Each caring and devoted Team Member gives their best.

For you, a person that whether you have known me when I was the #2 ranked professional tennis player in the world at the record breaking age of 16, or when I gave all my pro tennis earnings to help children with cancer and others in need, or if you have known me anytime in the last 39 years of program, administration and fundraising trench work I love doing, thank you for caring. Thank you for donating. Thank you for being extraordinary as together we are part of changing tears of distress to tears of joy, for bringing assistance and comfort when children and families are experiencing pain and suffering and for your help in making possibilities and opportunities to improve and even save lives. Your support is why together we are making an important and necessary difference.

A great deal has been accomplished with much, much more to be done. Where ever a person starts, is, has been, goes and as much as the world continues to bring challenges, it is an honor and privilege to enter this season and every season in this 39th year, next year's 40th year and hopeful to be 50th and beyond seasons with your combined efforts as together we make a fantastic team and community.



May your seasons be filled with peace, love, joy, good health and goodwill! Donate today at www.littlestar.org or at Little Star Foundation's headquarters address to improve and save lives. With gratitude and blessings to you, your family & loved ones, and appreciative of our special friendship too!

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