



Dawson's Story

I wish to go on a Rocky Mountain adventure

Dawson, 15
neuromuscular disorder



Shortly after his first birthday, Dawson was diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis. After numerous hospital visits and some genetic testing, it wasn't until Dawson was eleven years old that he and his family learned Dawson was diagnosed with a neuromuscular disorder.

Today, now fifteen years old, Dawson takes medication to help reduce the symptoms, and his neuromuscular disorder is still at a manageable point. Dawson has pain that seems to be worsening slowly; however, he doesn't let it stop him from doing the things he enjoys most - Dawson wants people to know that he is determined not to let his diagnosis control his life. Dawson currently holds a busy lifestyle working in the summer at a Waste Management Facility, being an Air Cadet and working for Home Hardware during the school year.

Dawson is a kind soul; he has a big heart and always tries to help others. He is also knowledgeable and does well in school. At home, Dawson likes to play computer games, watch tv, and relax. Upon learning he was eligible for a wish, Dawson knew his most heartfelt wish was to go to the Rocky Mountains in Alberta.

When we asked Dawson's grandmother, Myrna, what his wish meant to Dawson and the family, she responded, "It means he can travel and get to see places he may not get to see otherwise. It is excellent that we can travel together and spend quality family time."

And as the days get closer to Dawson's wish day, Dawson grows more joyful and excited as he thinks about his wish coming true. Dawson also shared a message of hope for other kids in similar situations to his, "Life is like lemonade because it is sometimes sour but also sweet."

Hope is essential for children with critical illnesses, and its life-changing power is unlocked when wishes like Dawson's are granted. Thanks to our donor community's generosity, we can continue to transform lives, one wish at a time.