



Braeden's Story

I wish to be a Blue Jay

Braeden, 3
Cardiac Condition



3-year-old Braeden, diagnosed with a cardiac condition, absolutely loves baseball and asked his parents to read him the baseball rule book all the time. He is very passionate about his favourite team - the Toronto Blue Jays – so Braeden wished to be a Blue Jay! Braeden’s mom says that watching the Blue Jay’s Russell Martin catching on TV inspired Braeden to learn how to squat and walk. The Blue Jays have been his inspiration for everything!

Braeden's wish was granted in July 2017. On his Wish Day, Braeden met Blue Jays players in the locker room, watched batting practice and hung out with ACE & Jose Bautista. Afterwards, Braeden and his family watched the Blue Jay's game.

Braeden can't stop talking about his wish day, and his mom says the impact lasted far beyond the day itself. Before his wish, it took longer to recover from surgery, and Braeden relied on his walker to get around. After the wish trip, he seemed to approach things differently. He recovered quickly from procedures and insisted on walking by himself more. The opportunity to meet the Blue Jays gave Braeden a different outlook on his condition and his day-to-day life.

“This experience meant everything to him.”