



Drew's Story

I wish to have an ultimate golf experience

Drew, 15
leukemia

In October 2016, at the age of ten, Drew began to have difficulty participating in his physical education class - as soon as he became active, his breath became short, and his normally rosy skin would instantly fade of any colour. Drew's family recognized him as a naturally athletic young boy, and with this sudden change, they knew something was drastically wrong. After some pertinent questions and tests at a children's hospital in Halifax, NS, Drew was diagnosed with leukemia.

Following his diagnosis and for the next four years, Drew required treatment of an intensive chemotherapy radiation protocol, which resulted in numerous and lengthy hospital visits. Now fifteen years old, Drew is two years post-treatment and is cancer-free! Drew's mom, Julie, describes her son as strong, confident, and academically inclined. Drew also has a curiosity for mechanics, classic maritime humour, and a kind heart that has him going out of his way to help others. When Drew isn't tinkering with mechanics - he's out on the golf course - taking in the sea of endless greenery and perfecting his swing.

When Drew discovered he was eligible for a wish, it came as fantastic news, so much so that he spent several years dreaming up his most heartfelt wish. When he finally discovered what his wish would be, it came as no surprise he hoped to have an ultimate golf experience.

Julie shared that the hundreds of people following along in Drew's journey - from diagnosis to recovery - were wholly overjoyed to watch a fully recovered, healthy boy receive his wish. As part of Drew's ultimate golf experience, he was honoured as a VIP guest at the Canadian Open, where he observed golf pros in their element, met a golf superstar and more. Drew's experience did not end there, as he was later treated to an incredible afternoon being fitted for custom-made golf clubs.

Upon reflecting on Drew's wish experience, Julie shares, "I know it was beyond anything I could've ever imagined. You essentially gave a child who went through years of misery the opportunity to write a part of his life that could never be topped by anything we would've been able to do for him on our own (or even imagined on our own)." She continued, "I don't believe there is any way that someone could measure what it is like for a child to experience a critical illness, nor does having a wish granted take that away. But if there were anything close to that, you more than hit the nail on the head when you provided him with an amazing experience that is etched in our memories and the memories of those who've cheered us along the more painful part and now an incredibly joyous part of what is a part of his life's story."

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