

30 Days/30 Stories®

Owen

Diagnosed with Bilateral Wilms tumor, stage 5 at 11 months old

On January 20th, 2017, our world as we knew it changed. Our only son, Owen, only 11 months-old, was diagnosed with Bilateral Wilms tumor, stage 5.

After lots of intense chemotherapy, lots of hospital stays, two kidney surgeries, and being high-risk for relapse, Owen went into remission in February 2018.

Shortly after Owen went into remission, he got to go back to daycare. Owen enjoyed being a "normal" little boy again. For the first time, Owen got to go to the beach! Owen had routine MRI scans and chest CT scans every 3 months.

On August 17th, 2018, we got a devastating phone call from Owen's oncologist. Owen's cancer has returned in his right kidney. Craig and I were devastated. On Monday August 20th, Owen had surgery to have a new port placed and started chemotherapy immediately. His chemotherapy was five days long, every three weeks. The chemotherapy Owen received was very aggressive. Owen had to take an antibiotic during the weeks of chemotherapy, to help prepare his stomach. His chemotherapy actually burned his intestines. Two weeks after every chemo treatment, Owen would have to receive a platelet transfusion. During his first platelet transfusion, Owen had an allergic reaction. Owen, our little warrior, went through another 7 months of chemo. As of April 2019, Owen has entered remission again!

Even with everything Owen has been through, he is always smiling. He has never let cancer bring him down.

From January of 2017, PCFLV has been by our side. They have provided us with gas cards, cafeteria gift cards, and birthday cards with gifts for Owen! Owen, has met the Bethlehem Steel soccer team and even got an autographed jersey. Some of Owen's favorite events with PCFLV include, Dorney Day, visiting Grim's Orchard, Lehigh Valley Phantom's games, and Chemo Circus visits to clinic. PCFLV has helped our family so much in our darkest times, but most importantly they offer so much for the kids!

Written by Owen's mom, Samantha

If you would like to donate in Owen's honor Click Here

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