



Let's celebrate

F I E S T A

MAY 3, 2024

CHAMPIONS RUN OMAHA

*Let's celebrate Cinco de Mayo a little early
with our very own fiesta!*



MEMORIES *for kids*

WELCOME

A DAY OF CELEBRATION AND GIVING

Friday, May 3, 2024

Welcome to our Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Day of Celebration and Giving! Since Memories for Kids was founded in 2011, we have created more than 165 memories for children in Nebraska and Western Iowa who have a parent with stage IV cancer. Memories for Kids is honored to help families take a break from a cancer diagnosis. These lifelong memories are made possible because of the generosity of our sponsors, supporters and dedicated volunteers.

This Cinco de Mayo event would not be possible without the dedication and creativity of the event chairs, Keeli Vrbicky and Katie Witt; the leadership of Guild President, Margaret McClenny; and the enthusiasm and hard work of the entire Guild board. They are such an amazing group!

Thank you for believing in this mission! With your help, MFK will continue touching lives, supporting families and helping children create memories that are uniquely special to their family.

Lisa Gravelle, Founder
Maureen Ereckson, Governing Board President

We are delighted you have joined us for our Cinco de Mayo Fiesta - a day of celebration and giving! This is our eighth annual spring event, and our fourth Cinco de Mayo day of celebration. Today will be filled with festive fellowship and heartfelt stories of the families that Memories for Kids serves.

We are so fortunate to have such an amazing organization in our community and region. Memories for Kids' mission of creating lifelong memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer is made possible because of each of you. We are able to have a lasting impact on so many families because of you.

Thank you for your generous support of this event and Memories for Kids. Enjoy the Fiesta!

Margaret McClenny - Guild President
Keeli Vrbicky, Katie Witt - Event Chairs

EVENT SPONSORS

Let's celebrate



GOLD SPONSORS

Amy and Bryan
Neary

The Pape Family
Foundation

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Katie and Grant Hutchins



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MEMORIES FOR KIDS

CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF CREATING LIFELONG MEMORIES

MISSION STATEMENT:

Creating lifelong memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer.



ABOUT MEMORIES FOR KIDS:

Memories for Kids is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to create lifelong memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer. While there are many organizations that exist to help children with terminal illness, there is a major void in groups dedicated to help children facing the loss of a parent. We create fun and memorable experiences for children to share with their mom or dad, which gives the entire family a break from the cancer diagnosis. Memories for Kids has presented unforgettable gifts to numerous children and your support will help us continue this mission.

CREATING LIFELONG MEMORIES



REFER A FAMILY



Make a Tribute



EVENTS



DONATE



Memories for Kids Guild presents

LET'S CELEBRATE ~ FIESTA! A DAY TO CELEBRATE AND GIVE!



FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

VIRTUAL KICKOFF -  

10:30 AM

FIESTA PACKAGE DELIVERY

11:00 AM
TO 12:00 PM

LIVE IN-PERSON FIESTA
(Champions Run Omaha)

5:00 PM
TO 7:00 PM

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DONATIONS
(live and virtually)

6:00 PM



WAYS TO GIVE



OR VISIT
[MEMORIESFORKIDS.ORG](https://www.memoriesforkids.org)



EASY QUESO DIP

12 oz. white American cheese
4 oz. pepper jack cheese, shredded
2/3 c. half-and-half
1 clove garlic, chopped
1 jalapeño, chopped
1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
4 oz. green chiles, drained
Diced tomatoes, chopped cilantro, and sliced
fresh jalapeño, to top.

Stovetop method: In a medium saucepan, bring 1 inch of water to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium-low and place a bowl inside the pot to create a double boiler. (The bowl should be big enough to rest above the rim of the pot without the bottom touching the water.) Add both cheeses, the half-and-half, garlic, jalapeño, and black pepper, stirring to combine. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the cheese is melted and the dip is creamy, 5 to 10 minutes. Stir in the green chilies. Top with diced tomatoes, cilantro, and sliced jalapeño. Serve immediately.



Recipe from - thepioneerwoman.com

SPICY JALAPEÑO MARGARITA

INGREDIENTS:

FOR THE JALAPEÑO TEQUILA:

1 medium jalapeño, cut lengthwise, seeds removed

1 3/4 c. silver tequila

FOR THE SPICY MARGARITAS:

3 oz. jalapeño tequila

2 oz. triple sec or orange liqueur

1 1/2 oz. lime juice

1/2 oz. agave or simple syrup (optional)

Lime and jalapeño slices, for garnish



Recipe from - thepioneerwoman.com

DIRECTIONS:

For the jalapeño tequila: Place the jalapeño halves and tequila in a pint-sized glass jar. Cover and let sit at room temperature for 24 hours. Remove the jalapeño and any seeds that may have escaped.

For the margaritas: Combine the jalapeño tequila, triple sec, lime juice, and agave syrup in a cocktail shaker filled with ice. Shake for 20 to 30 seconds to chill well. Strain into each margarita glass or rocks glass filled with ice. Garnish with slices of lime and jalapeño, if you like. ENJOY!

SPECIALTY ITEM AVAILABLE

Jeff Hanson™

Changing the World Through Art™

This beautiful painting was completed by Jeff Hanson's parents in the style that continues Jeff's goal of reaching \$10 million for cancer research and organizational support. The *Drive to San Gimignano 2022* measurement is 40" x 50" x 2.5", and the painting is valued at \$6,800.00.

Painting donated by the **David Spence Cancer Foundation.**

Special thanks to our Guest Auctioneer, Andrew Liakos.



Drive to San Gimignano 2022

"Every act of kindness helps create kinder communities, more compassionate nations and a better world for all – even one painting at a time."

– Jeff Hanson

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

The Memories for Kids Youth Advisory Board is a group of high school students from across the Omaha community who help us create and implement fundraising events that facilitate amazing memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer. The students learn how a board functions by electing officers, creating agendas and running meetings using Roberts Rules of Order. They are challenged to create and implement their own fundraiser for Memories for Kids. The Youth Advisory Board is also responsible for a wide variety of duties including assisting with mailings and other organizational activities. The board meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.



Memories for my kids - Book completed by the Youth Advisory Board



Memories for my kids was a three-year project completed by the Youth Advisory Board. The book was designed as a way for a parent to share personal information with his or her children.

These books are shared with our memory recipients. They also make a great gift for parents or grandparents.

To purchase a book, please email info@memoriesforkids.org

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of

Sandy Joseph

Mother of MFK Guild Board member Jen Wulf

John Joseph

Trisha Solko

Loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. A beautiful person inside and out.

The Peterson Family

Honorary - General

Mary Kovar

Ginny Inglis

The "most awesome of moms"

Angel Carl

Trisha and Gregg Solko

In Honor of Trisha and Gregg Solko: Trisha and Gregg are caring and giving people, and devoted to their family and friends

Connie Davidson

Tailor Valentine

One of the bravest, most beautiful souls I have ever met

Melissa and Benjamin Teply

Megan Reay

Amy Henderson

Jeff Kosse

Honorary - General

Lindsey Jochim

Leigh Shea

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of

Honorary - General

ed and Marcia (sp) Jorgenson of Council Bluff's. I don't know them. I was calling on a request they had made for mortgage protection and none of our agents had followed up from their past request, it was many months old and didn't she that our agents completed their request. My job is to make sure the requests are completed. Marcia touched my heart. I've never met them in person but In one 10 minute phone call I knew I wanted to help her and her family. I pray that they are blessed with a wonderful weekend full of memories. I'm not looking for anything in return I just hope that this small contribution will add to their special weekend.

Sara Guida

Tanya

Keri Fox

Elyse DeTurk

Elyse DeTurk is my sister and an incredible warrior. Thank you memories for Kids for the important work you do for these families!

Stephanie Borman

Holly Hernandez

My best friend Holly is fighting breast cancer not once but twice now since 2021. Unfortunately, the cancer has returned in her brain and her lung and she is now stage 4. Holly has so much strength and courage in fighting this ugly disease. I want other kids going through this to have a positive memory with their parent battling stage 4 cancer as well. Cancer takes so much from us but it can never steal memories from us.

Jill Frank

Elyse DeTurk

Elizabeth Fortina

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of

Elyse DeTurk

Elyse and her family have been blessed by MFK. You only need to meet Elyse to love her. She has the spirit of a true warrior and faces cancer head on. We love you Elyse! Love, Uncle Dave and Aunt Lynn

Lynn Busch

Megan Riebe Reay

In honor of the great work of Megan Riebe Reay.

Lawrence Gendler

Lily Dencklau

"In recognition of the participation and support of the 2023 Omaha Symphony Debutante Ball's Debs and Stags.

We plan to send this letter to Debs and Stags:

A donation has been made to Memories for Kids in recognition of your participation and support of the 2023 Omaha Symphony Debutante Ball's Debs and Stags.

Memories for Kids is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Omaha organization. Their mission is to create lifelong memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer.

The donation received by Memories for Kids is to support their mission of providing children with a parent who has life-threatening illnesses and their families with memorable experiences and opportunities to create lasting memories. The donation helps cover the costs associated with organizing and facilitating these experiences, such as trips, activities, and special events, which bring joy and happiness to the children and their families during challenging times.

Have a wonderful time at the ball!
Debutante, Lily Dencklau + Family"

Tiffany and Corey Dencklau

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of

Elyse DeTurk

Watched your story on the Omaha news channel.

Daniel Page

Angie Matthews

Our Bunco group makes a donation every year to an organization that helps someone we know who needs help. Angie is in the end of life stages and your organization is giving her and her family a trip. We hope they get to go.

Lynda Chartier

Franks Trenching

They made me aware of this incredible organization. Donation in the name of Chasten-Otis

Dustin Kowalewski

Jennifer Peterson

Jennifer is generous, kind and loving. She is an inspiration to me.

Patricia and Gregory Solko

Honorary - General

Mary Westfall

Janelle French

Donation made in honor of Janelle French's commitment to ReRUNS R Fun mission to make an impact in our community and beyond.

Gina Urbanski

Kathy Weaver

Donation made in honor of Kathy Weaver's commitment to ReRUNS R Fun mission to make an impact in our community and beyond.

Gina Urbanski

General Tribute Donation

LouAnn Goding

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of

Todd Ford

This donation is being made in honor of Todd Ford's birthday of 2/18.

Janelle Perez

Elizabeth Lucy

Beth is a friend and a co-worker who has been a warrior for the past couple of years. She's been amazing and deserves a special time with her family.

Mark and Janelle Finken

Elizabeth Lucy

Amber Finken

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Jim Clark

Recognized by Mom & Dad

Chris Jessen

For making every day "The Best Day Ever"
Kay, Rachel & Ellie Jessen

Ryan Albritton

Thankful for MFK organizing the NY Mets Spring Training trip for Ryan and his family. It still brings tears to me thinking how wonderful that trip was for them.

Jill and Jim Dorman

Lana Hollertz

Lana Hollertz, my dear mom, lost to bile duct cancer after an 16-month battle.

Lexie and Shame Frahm

Jesse James Hansen

In memory of my cousin Jesse James Hansen. He was diagnosed with stage IV cancer in early 2021 and passed in July the same year, after being gifted a trip through Memories for Kids. Jesse is remembered for being a light hearted, comedic, courageous personality. He was a father to three young boys whom he loved to teach to camp, fish and farm. His adventurous spirit kept his wife Molly on her toes! His generous, kind, ornery spirit lives on in his beautiful children. He was loved and will forever be missed by his family and many friends.

Shannon Johnson

Tanya Winegard

In loving memory of Tanya Winegard and the bright light she shared with all those who crossed her path.

Sara Bridges

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Tanya Winegard

The family requested this in lieu of flowers. Every time I saw Tanya she had a smile on her face and wanted to know how our son Parker was doing. Her son Noah and Parker frequently competed in the same basketball and baseball tournaments. We are happy to make this donation in her honor.

Nancy Stessman

Tanya Winegard

Tanya's family benefits from this organization and in true Tanya spirit she wants to pay it forward.

Julie Orio

Tanya Winegard

Greg Noll

Tanya Winegard

In memory of Tanya Winegard from your neighbors and friends from Eagle Point.

Dennis and Ida; Donna and Tony; Mike and Julie; Perry, Frank, Robert and Tom.

Tanya Winegard

An amazing "Baseball Mom" who supported our program and her sons.

Tanya Winegard

Her kids and husband will forever cherish the memories from their trip to Wrigley Field sponsored by Memories For Kids.

Kimberly Fransen

Tanya Winegard

Sara Reynolds

Tanya Winegard

She passed away on October, 28, 2023. In lieu of flowers, donations are being requested to Memories for Kids.

Jackie Dahl

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Tanya Winegard

Tanya Winegard, mother of my son's friend, Noah Winegard.

Gina Pappas

Tanya Winegard

In memory of Tanya Winegard, who recently passed away after a courageous of 15-month battle with pancreatic cancer. Per her sister, "In lieu of flowers, the Winegard family has requested a donation in Tanya's honor to Memories For Kids. The family was blessed by the organization and would love to pay it forward to other families in similar situations."

Jackie Lawrence

Tanya Winegard

She inspired so many as she battled cancer over the past 15 months. Your organization was special to their family, so I wanted to make sure I did something in memory of this beautiful soul who touched so many!

Melissa Tennison

Tanya Winegard

I would like to donate in memory of Tanya Winegard. Tanya just lost her battle with pancreatic cancer. She and her family had a wonderful experience with the Chicago Cubs due to the generosity of Memories for Kids. Tanya was a dear friend and colleague. She will be missed.

Pam Hopkins

Tanya Winegard

RIP friend. You will forever be missed.

Katie Steffen

Tanya Winegard

Tanya is a mom of a boy on my son's baseball team. As she was battling cancer, she attended his games this summer and enjoyed the moments of watching her son play! Such a strong, amazing woman!

Donation is from Brad, Beth, Jake and Will Janssen

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Tanya Winegard

In Memory of Tanya Winegard and in support of her loving family.

Michelle and Chad Hartnett

Tanya Winegard

Mark Dudley

Creighton University - Tanya Winegard

“Our deepest sympathies,
Shelby and Lance Richards
Dalton and Ariana Reck”

Shelby Richards

Tanya Winegard

Friend of the family.

Brian Healy

Tanya Winegard

She and her family were touched by Memories For Kids and want to pay it forward in Tanya's memory.

Kelly and Andy Kalthoff

Tanya Winegard

She was such an inspiration to me during my time at Creighton. She improved the lives of so many students. I will always remember her kindness and dedication. Rest easy, Dr. Winegard.

John Greenwood

Tanya Winegard

I play baseball with her son. She and her family were truly inspiring in their support for their son and the entire baseball program. She was a pillar of strength. We send our deepest condolences to her family during this time.

The Grabensteins

Tonya Winegard

She and her family were a recipient of a Memory for Kids this past summer.

Stephanie Wall

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Tonya Winegard

A great employee's beloved sister

Tanya Winegard

The Elkhorn North Baseball Family would like to donate in Tanya's name because of the many friendships & contributions to our program.

Tanya Winegard

On behalf of the Urban League of Nebraska Staff & Board we send our deepest condolences. We are so grateful to have had the opportunity to share in Tanya's talents & passions.

Jeff Clausen

Jeff was an amazing husband and father who passed away in 2012. I'm certain he would have given anything for the opportunity to make more memories with his beautiful family and hope other families in similarly tragic situations can enjoy quality time with their loved ones in honor of his memory.

Diane Topolski

Nichole Strauch-Case

This donation is in memory of my beloved coworker, Nichole Case. Rest in peace, Nichole.

Tim Pugsley

Nichole Case

Sarah Stover

Nichole Strauch Case

In Memory of Nichole Strauch Case

Hope Zortman

Nichole Case

I worked with Nichole Case, who recently passed from esophageal cancer, and wanted to donate in her memory.

David Zauha

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of

Nichole Strauch-Case

“OrthoNebraska IT/Informatics & Quality teams would like to recognize what an amazing team member and friend Nichole was. She will be greatly missed and we were lucky to have her in our lives. We are all better, because of knowing Nichole. She was bright, positive, loyal, a joy to work with and always fun. Her calm demeanor and willingness to help, made such a lasting impact on our teams. We will miss her smile but a piece of her will always be engrained in OrthoNebraska’s culture.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, especially her husband Nick, daughter Evie, and Dad & Brothers.”

Ann Wright

Nichole Dee Strauch-Case

In memory of Nichole Dee Starch-Case from Carson Group
Ron Carson

HONOR THOSE THAT INSPIRE AND INFLUENCE

A donation to Memories for Kids Annual Tribute Campaign is a special way to honor or remember a loved one, caregiver or champion. Become a supporter of Memories for Kids and help families take a break from cancer.

You may donate to honor or remember a loved one by visiting memoriesforkids.org.



DONATE

PLEASE SUPPORT MEMORIES FOR KIDS

TO DONATE



or visit

MEMORIESFORKIDS.ORG





FOUNDER

Lisa Gravelle

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Megan Riebe Reay



COMMITTEE


Margaret McClenny – Guild President
Keeli Vrbicky and Katie Witt – Event Chairs

Jen Bartelt	Cathy Haney	Lisa Tonjes Moritz
Michelle Blazauskas	Kelli Hawkins	Ali McBride
Kim Burkhalter	Amy Henderson	Tina Nelson
Megan Dahlgren	Leigh Anne Koehler	Sara Stoller
Jamie Friedland	Jackie Latka	Jen Wulf
Mindy Geis	Julie Liakos	Julie Horgan Wurth
Kris Greenwald	Heidi Macy	
Cindy Guenzel	Emily Milewski	



MEMORIES FOR KIDS GUILD BOARD

The Memories for Kids Guild is made up of community volunteers who are dedicated to supporting Memories for Kids by volunteering, fundraising, and increasing community awareness to enhance the lives of children whose parent is battling stage IV cancer. This spring event is made possible by the hard work of this devoted guild, and we are truly grateful for the time and dedication put into organizing this special event.





DONATE

MEMORIESFORKIDS.ORG