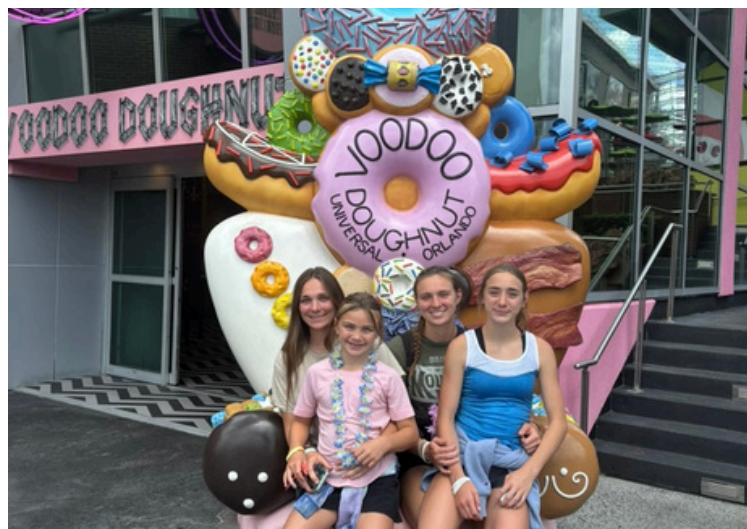
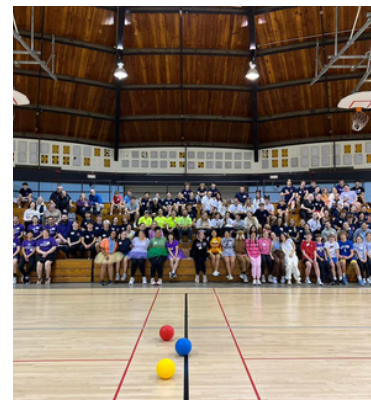


Memories for Kids

YEAR IN REVIEW

2024



2024 SUMMARY

This year marked the first full calendar year in my role as Executive Director at Memoires for Kids. And what a year 2024 has been! The organization has demonstrated exceptional growth for Memories for Kids in several areas. The organization embarked on initiatives driven by a new Strategic Plan, with goals for the next three years surrounding growing and refining our memory processes, growing and diversifying our funding sources, and implementing improvements to our structural processes. The organization was able to begin, and sometimes even fully accomplish, several strategies and methods surrounding these goals. A couple of notable achievements include completing a full examination of fundraising events, developing marketing strategies, securing a physical address (note our new mailing address!), increasing memory referrals, and making our memory application process completely available online.

Throughout 2024, Memories for Kids was able to create 29 memories for children with a parent facing stage IV cancer. Of these, a record 26 families were able to take a break from cancer and create memories in places such as Disneyworld, the Black Hills, St. Pete's Beach, Great Wolf Lodge and Legoland in Kansas City, and behind-the-scenes tours and animal encounters at the zoo. Children of three families received special keepsake items of necklaces with their parent's fingerprint and signature engraved. I am proud of the impact our organization has had on families facing the worst and look forward to continued growth.

Throughout this report, you will see that the number of memories we created in 2024 has increased significantly from the past several years. We are reaching more families overall, with a noticeable increase in serving families from communities in Greater Nebraska. While this is fantastic news, this requires preparation to meet the demands and opportunities of expanded awareness and referrals. To this end, we executed several events in 2024 to help fund our mission:

- Trivia Night
- Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Day of Celebration and Giving
- Dodgeball Tournament
- Giving Tuesday Campaign
- Tribute Campaign
- Annual Campaign

The organization is incredibly grateful for the support of many individuals and businesses through the above-mentioned events and other avenues mentioned in this report. I am incredibly grateful to the Governing Board for its continued support and direction. I would also like to thank the Guild Board, which continues to provide the largest fundraising support for Memories for Kids. Both Boards are crucial to the success of the organization. I would also like to express my pride and gratitude to the Youth Advisory Board, who planned and executed a Dodgeball Tournament, that became our second largest fundraising event of the year! Also, many thanks to our College Advisory Board, a sizable group of Creighton students who are always eager for ways to volunteer their time and commitment to raise awareness amongst the college and young-adult population in the community. And thank you to all of you reading this report, who have supported Memories for Kids in one way or another this past year.

Please enjoy the event summaries and photos, data and stats, and most importantly, the family moments that are in the pages that follow. They capture the heart of what we do and why we do it.

I am very much looking forward to 2025 and all that this year has in store!

Thank You,



Megan Riebe Reay
Executive Director

GOVERNING BOARD 2024

Memories for Kids relies on volunteers to serve its mission, enhance program efficiency, and instill the spirit of giving in the Omaha community. Our Governing Board is composed of dedicated individuals who are passionate about providing memorable experiences to children who have a parent with stage IV cancer. These volunteers share the common goal of making a positive impact on the lives of these children and their families.



LISA GRAVELLE
FOUNDER



MAUREEN ERECKSON
PRESIDENT



BRENDA SMITH
PRESIDENT-ELECT



KATIE TOWNLEY
SECRETARY



ERIN SAUTER
TREASURER



ANN CHRISTIANSEN
ADVISOR



MEGAN RIEBE REAY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MARGARET MCLENNY
GUILD PRESIDENT



MELISSA ANDERSON



NATALIE BARTMAN



SCOTT DWYER



JULIE FORSTER



CLAY HOBERMAN



KATIE HUTCHINS



AMANDA IWANSKY



KYLE LACY



KRISTIN LEWIS



TOODY MOFFATT



LISA REZAC



KATIE TRIPLETT



MEG URSICK

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Memories for Kids is a charitable organization committed to creating lifelong memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer. The mission has been made possible by the overwhelming support of our communities and allows Memories for Kids to serve all of Nebraska and western Iowa.

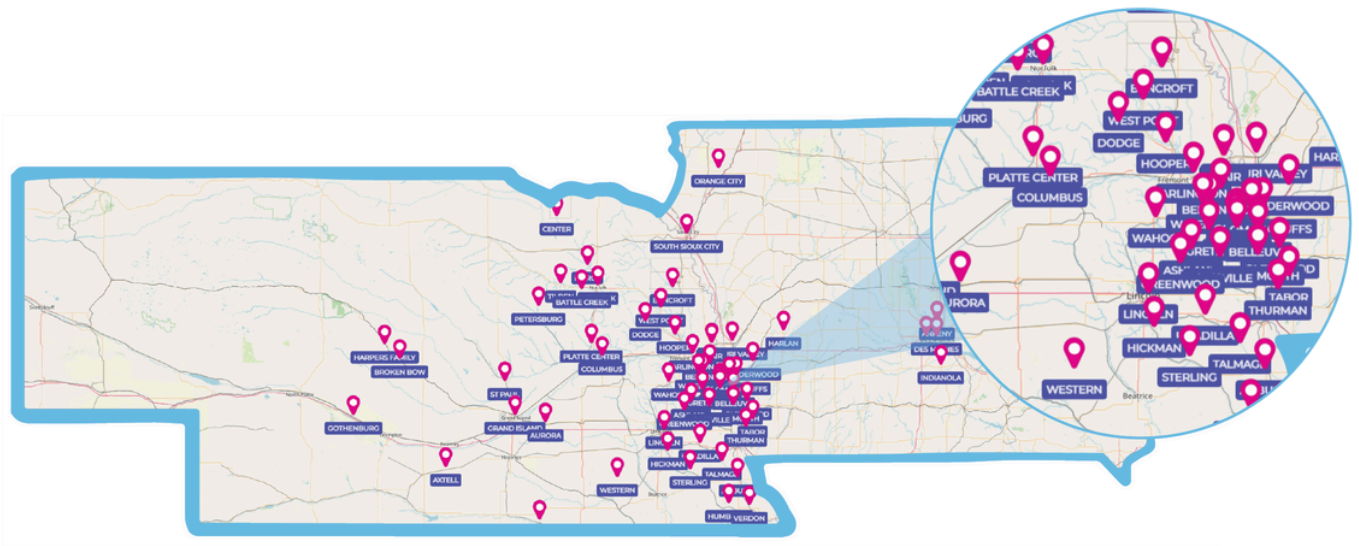
513

CHILDREN IMPACTED

*SINCE THE
BEGINNING*

195

FAMILY MEMORIES CREATED



86

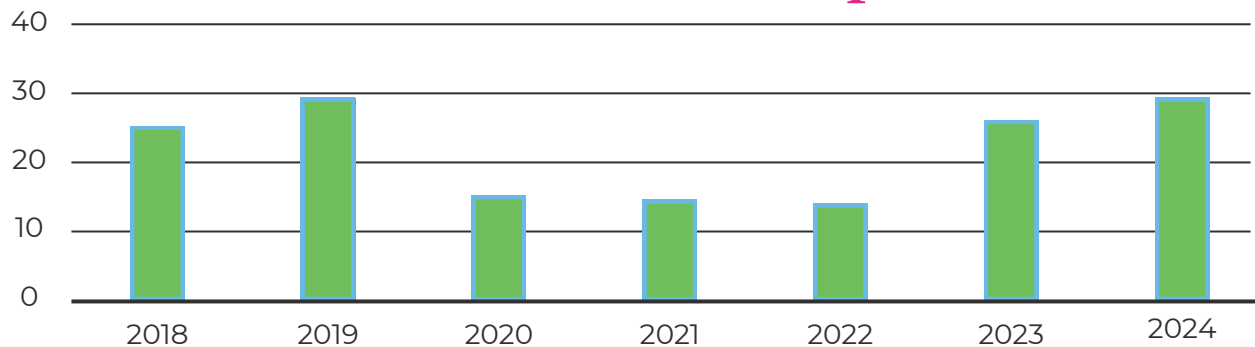
CHILDREN IMPACTED

IN 2024

29

FAMILY MEMORIES CREATED

Number of Memories per Year



LIFELONG MEMORIES

In 2024, Memories for Kids granted 29 memories to families of children who have a parent fighting stage IV cancer. Of these, 26 families were able to travel or participate in an experience due to the diagnosed parent feeling well and being medically stable enough to do so. Family travel included an RV trip to the Black Hills; Estes Park in Colorado; Great Wolf Lodge and Legoland in Kansas City; and Big Cedar Lodge in the Ozarks. Additionally, three memories included fingerprint necklaces created for children, as the families were not able to travel or participate in an experience together. These necklaces contain an engraving of the parent's fingerprint and often an inscription written in the parent's handwriting. Please enjoy some photos of the 2024 memories created below!



2024

GUILD BOARD

The Memories for Kids Guild Board brings excitement to fundraising! This dedicated group of community volunteers supports the mission of Memories for Kids through its commitment to volunteer work, fundraising efforts, and raising awareness within the community. The Guild Board organizes and executes its primary fundraiser, a Day of Giving around Cinco de Mayo, a Trivia Night, and multiple dining events throughout the year.



SPRING EVENT

Without the Guild Board's support, Memories for Kids would not be able to continue its mission. The Guild Board's dedication to this cause is inspiring and its hard work is greatly appreciated. The funds raised from this event go towards creating lifelong memories. MFK is honored to have such a wonderful group of supporters and we cannot thank them enough.



TOTAL RAISED \$55,800

The Jeff Hanson Painting, donated by the **David Spence Cancer Foundation**, raised over \$5000 in support of the mission of Memories for Kids.



EVENT SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSORS

Amy and Bryan
Neary

The Pape Family
Foundation

SILVER SPONSORS

Anonymous



METHODIST

The McGowan
Family Foundation

BRONZE SPONSORS



Hematology
& Oncology
Consultants, P.C.



CHANDLER | CONWAY



Katie and Grant Hutchins



Ann and Dennis Christiansen



TRIVIA NIGHT

On the evening of January 23, the Memories for Kids Guild hosted its 6th Annual Trivia Night, an energetic event where participants enjoyed spirited competition. Teams competed for bragging rights by tackling trivia questions presented by Mike Monday of Monday Night Games. As the event concluded, attendees departed with smiles and new friendships, eagerly anticipating next year's gathering. The 2024 Trivia Night raised \$3600 to go toward creating memories!



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Memories for Kids appreciates all the support from local businesses that donated a portion of sales to Memories for Kids in 2024.

Thank you to Chipotle at 132d and Center, Runza at 108th and Pacific, Together a Greater Good (TAGG), and Kendra Scott at Village Pointe!



COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Mustaches for Kids (M4K) is an organization that takes fundraising to an entirely new, stylish level. Through costume contests, community involvement, and a sense of camaraderie, everything is infused with the unique charm of mustaches. Memories for Kids was chosen as a bonus charity in 2024, raising **\$36,415** to support our mission. Keep up the great work, M4K; we truly appreciate everything you do!



The Bella Group a Private Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to making a significant difference in communities through various charitable initiatives. Their partnership with Memories for Kids has allowed us to broaden our outreach and create lasting memories for children whose parents are battling stage IV cancer. The Bella Group's generous grant of **\$25,000** has provided many cherished moments thanks to their kindness.



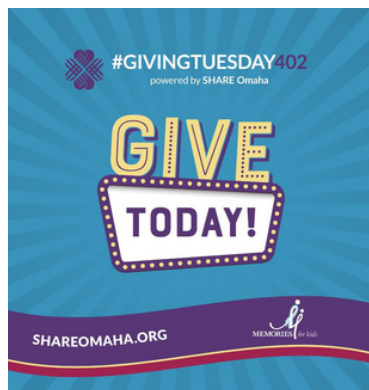
COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Omaha Baseball Village's generous support of **\$5,000** helped fund trips and activities that helped create many lifelong memories. This partnership highlights the community's commitment to making a positive impact and fostering a spirit of compassion and togetherness. Through initiatives like these, Omaha Baseball Village continues to be a beacon of support, inspiring others to join in and make a meaningful difference.



Giving Tuesday...Celebrating Giving Memories!

Thanks to the incredible support from our community, Giving Tuesday saw a significant increase in donations. Memories for Kids received a total of \$2000 in donations through Giving Tuesday this year.



ADVISORY BOARDS

YOUTH AND COLLEGE

The **Youth Advisory Board (YAB)** consists of high school students who possess a passion for assisting Memories for Kids in creating unforgettable memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer. The YAB Board consists of members from the Omaha community at the following schools:

- Brownell Talbot College Preparatory School
- Creighton Preparatory High School
- Elkhorn South High School
- Marian High School
- Millard North High School
- Omaha Central High School
- Westside High School

The Board members learn to elect officers, develop agendas, and conduct meetings utilizing Robert's Rules of Order. The Board also plans and executes a fundraiser for Memories for Kids. In November 2024, the group successfully executed a Dodgeball event, obtained sponsorships, and secured a \$5000 Match Grant from the Amy L. Scott Family Foundation. You can see more on the next page!



The **College Advisory Board (CAB)** is a new group of almost 100 young adults at Creighton University, who are eager to bring awareness and fundraising to Memories for Kids.

The CAB believes that MFK is an incredibly important cause, and they are excited to use their skills and resources to make a difference.



DODGEBALL



DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT NOVEMBER 17TH



The 2024 Youth Advisory Board Dodgeball Tournament was a huge success! The students on the YAB worked tirelessly to bring this event to life, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts. A heartfelt thank you to all the participants, our incredible sponsors, and everyone who helped make it happen.

This event was supported by the **Amy L. Scott Family Foundation**, and we are so grateful for the foundation's support.

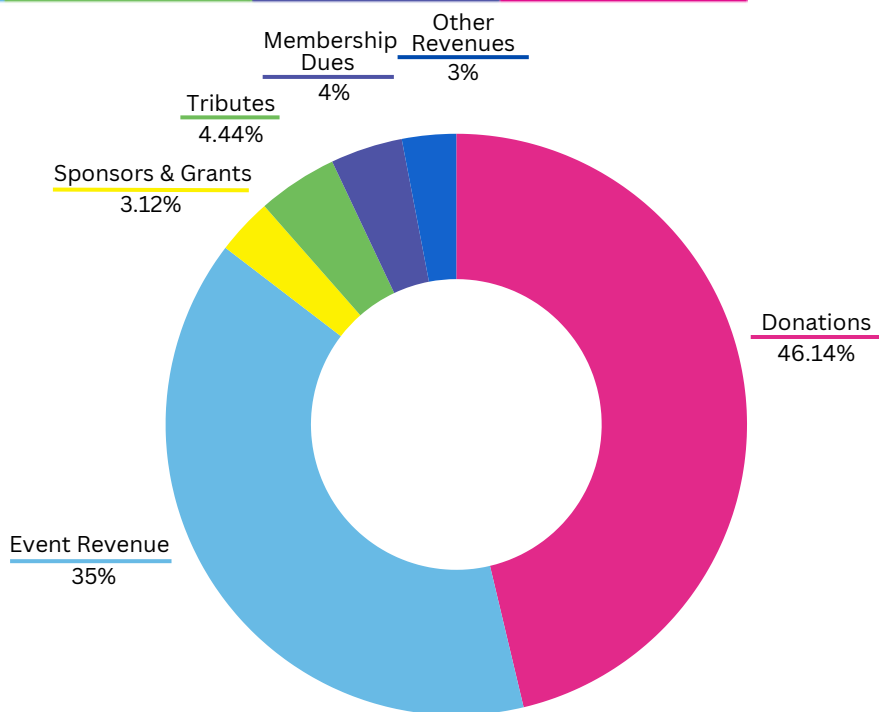
TOTAL RAISED \$14,000+







FINANCIALS

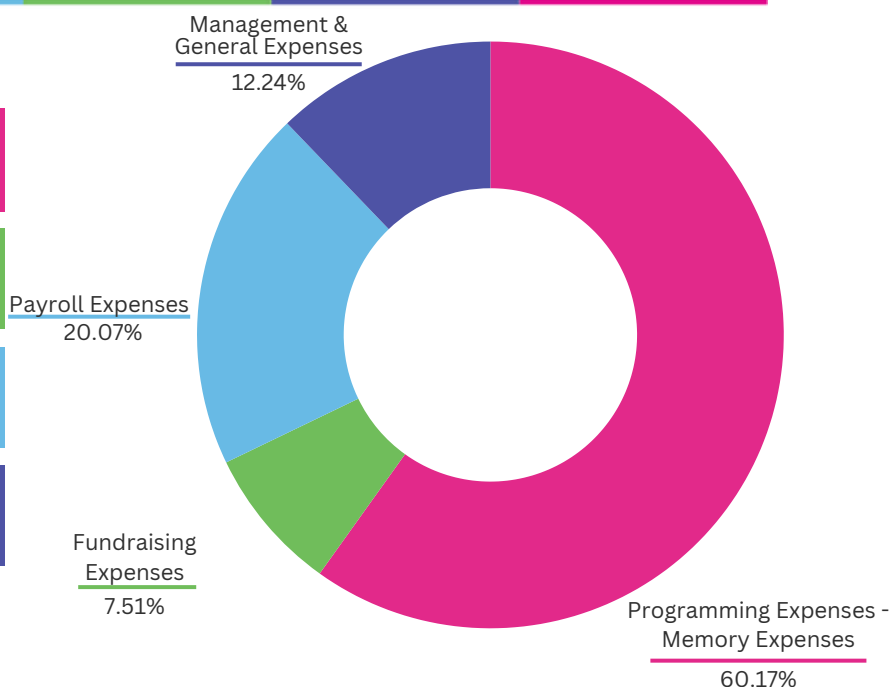
Revenue 2024

Donations - \$95,999.07	
Sponsors & Grants - \$6,500	
Tributes - \$9,240	
Event Revenue - \$80,716.01	
Guild & YAB Membership Dues - \$8,829.05	
Other Revenues - \$6,788.45	



Expenses 2024

Programming Expenses - Memory Expenses - \$171,770.63	
Fundraising Expenses - \$21,435.91	
Payroll Expenses - \$57,306.51	
Management & General Expenses - \$34,953.61	



Our Generous 2024 Supporters

Annual gifts from corporations, foundations, organizations and individuals enable Memories for Kids to create lifelong memories for children who have a parent fighting stage IV cancer. This generosity helps kids be kids and briefly relieves the sadness they are experiencing. Thank you to the following for supporting the mission of Memories for Kids.

\$25,000+

Mustaches for Kids Omaha
Bella Group A. Private Foundation Inc.

\$10,000-\$24,999

Osaic Foundation

\$5000-\$9999

Katie and Grant Hutchins
The David Spence Cancer Foundation
Centris Federal Credit Union
Amy Farha-Neary
Fred Hunzeker
Pape Family Foundation
Quality Brands

\$2500-\$4999

Lisa and Matt Gravelle
Dean Snyder Construction
The McGowan Family Foundation, Inc.
Julie and Charlie Liakos
Ann and Dennis Christiansen
Dvorak Law Group

\$1000-\$2499

Bryan Health
Chandler | Conway, PC, LLO
Dundee Bank
Hematology & Oncology Consultants, P.C.
Nebraska Medicine
KB Building Services
Nebraska Cancer Specialists
Megan and William Reay
Shannon and James Dombrowski
Mary Riebe
Jennifer and Trey Mytty
Heidi and Tom Macy
Garrett Reilly
Lisa and DJ Rezac

Maureen and Steve Ereckson

Amy L. Scott Family Foundation

DMSI

Lindsay Eagan

Mark and Janelle Finken

Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society

Megan and David Hawk

\$500-\$999

Melissa Teply

Margaret and Christopher McClenny

Mari and Jeff Rensch

Erin Sauter

Cathy and Steve Haney

Sheryl and Chris Cornett

Erin and Michael Murnan

Richard Pruss

Jen and Duane Bartelt

Lexie and Shane Frahm

Juliana Hefflinger

Jane and Joe Stessman

Brenda and Nic Smith

Kristin and Chuck Lewis

Amy Henderson and Jeff Kosse

Kim and Kurt Burkhalter

Sara and Asher Stoller

Lori Bruck and Neubauer

Sean Cuddigan

Amber Finken

Carrie and John Jenkins

Josh and Caitlin Mell

Midwest Technology Solutions, Inc

Cathie and Arman Pajnigar

Papillion Junior Woman's Club

Pinnacle Bankcorp, Inc.

Molly and Toby Schropp

Janelle Ward

Our Generous 2024 Supporters

Annual gifts from corporations, foundations, organizations and individuals enable Memories for Kids to create lifelong memories for children who have a parent fighting stage IV cancer. Your generosity helps kids be kids, and briefly relieves the sadness they are experiencing. Thank you for your support of the Memories for Kids mission.

\$250-\$499

Kelli and Jay Hawkins
Tina Nelson
Michelle and Yuri Blazauskas
Jacob Holdsworth
Drue and Todd Lovgren
Meg Ursick
Mark Bendon
Abby and Mark Blair
Melissa Jantzen
Kate and Joel Schafer
Anonymous
Grant Lewis
Melissa Anderson
Julie Forster
Jon Eden
Gerry Lauritzen
ReRUNS R Fun Inc.
Joy and Gordon Watanabe
Scott Dwyer
Ali McBride
Dave and Whitney Goldner
Mike Gravelle
Cindy Guenzel
Laura Iliff
John Joseph
Kara and Kyle Krehbiel
Jan Martin
Joshua Martin
Toody and Kody Moffatt
Shirley and Daniel Neary
Kara and Troy Plumb
Anne Soukup
Julie and Louis Linquata
Brianne Wilhelm

\$101-\$249

Dimitry Khots
Julie Horgan Wurth
Ruth and Brent Adkisson
Kim Banat
Traci Copple
Jill and Jim Dorman
Lawrence Gendler
Andrea Gutta
Anne and Matt Jetter
Andi and Joe Kafka
Leigh Anne Koehler
Mary Kovar
Liz and Tim Langan
Suzanne and Hap Pocras
Angie Welsh
Sue and Scott Whiton
Jen and Clay Wulf
YOURCAUSE, LLC
Dundee Bank
Emily Milewski
Grant Benson
Conor Gross
Lauren Lazure
Kate Martin
Matt Ruma
Kristi Jacobs
Dawn and Doug Buchanan
Sally and Bud Foix
Jamie and Ted Friedland
Becki and Josh Kerns
Lisa Tonjes Moritz
Kris and Doug Greenwald
Darrell and Fran Plumb
Janna Hart
Jeff Keating
Kathy and Michael Kellen
Cindy and Dominic Vaccaro

UP TO \$100

Jennifer and Mitch Alloway
Colleen Bartholomew
Natalie Bartman
Renee and Jason Black
Anne and Matt Bogard
Erica Bryant
Maureen and Joe Clark
Tom Cobler
Connie Davidson
Ruth Dewhurst
Kay Farrell
LouAnn Goding
Sara Henning
Randy Herd
Becky McCrery Crotzer
Gabrielle and Mathew Mormino
Daniel Page
Kathleen and Phillip Powell
Cathy Proctor
Sue Putnam
Kimberly Quinn
Beth and Bob Recker
Lori and Matt Rusch
Tim and Denise Salzbrenner
Kimberly Samland
Kara and Bob Soukup
Aubrey Sumner
Michelle Thornburg
Stephanie VonSeggern
Trish and Ted Walz
Steven and Carol Bloch
Kay Jessen
Megan Dahlgren
Rick Davis
Pamela Davis Degand
Kim Falk
Roger Iwansky
Dustin Kowalewski
Jenny Meyerson
Kathryn Monzu
Maureen and Neil Moseman
Karen and Larry Nelsen
Prashant Nimbalegundi
Janelle Perez
Jennifer and Steven Riddell
Viral Shah
Jason and Leah Smejkal
Amy Streckfuss
Margaret Tigges
Jennifer Vasko
Katie Witt
Jennifer and Rob Zatechka
Cary Morwitzer
Annie Stessman
Kellan Strauch
Stacy Wilson
TAGG - Together a Great Good
Kyle Lacy
Camryn O'Dell
Jennifer and Mike Peterson
Mindy Reed
Susan and Edmund Stephan
Cindy Stowell
Donna and Gregory Carlson
Shawn Hanneman
Sonya and Kirk Holmes
Bill and Jackie Miller
Brigette and Kerwin Van Houten
Christian Bowman
Lisa Jones
Travis Justice
Aurora Ness
Laraine Roberts

TRIBUTE CAMPAIGN

MEMORIES FOR KIDS

CREATING LIFELONG MEMORIES FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE A PARENT WITH STAGE IV CANCER.



Paying tribute to inspiring and influential individuals is a noble endeavor. Memories for Kids annual Tribute Campaign is a unique way to commemorate a loved one, caregiver, or champion. Contributions support families coping with cancer by providing them with a much-needed break.

Donors honor or remember someone who has had a positive impact on their lives or others. Tributes are acknowledged on our Tribute Page, as well as here in our Annual Report. We celebrate the lives of these remarkable individuals.

TOTAL
419
TRIBUTES
DEDICATED



Tributes

IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY

2024

Tributes in Memory

Ryan Albritton

Garrett Reilly

Ryan Albritton

Anonymous

Travis Wells

Michelle Thornburg

Sandy Joseph

John Joseph

Allen Johnson

Kimberly Samland

Chris Jessen

For giving me my "Best Day(s) Ever!"

Kay Jessen

Ryan Albritton

Scott and Sue Whiton

Derrith Murphy

Missing my dear friend Dearth Murphy. She was an amazing mother and always put others needs before her own. I know she would want others to have the same experience she was given by MFK.

Jan Martin

Melissa Hizer

In loving memory of Melissa Hizer and in honor of daughters, Peyton and Mackinlee.
Jason and Leah Smejkal

Jessica Manna

Randy Herd

Jessica Manna

Kerwin and Brigitte Van Houten

Jessica Manna

Jessica Manna was a wonderful person! She will be greatly missed!

Stephanie Von Seggern

Jessica Manna

Neil and Maureen Moseman

Jessica Manna

Cary Morwitzer

Jessica Manna

Our cousin Jessica was so loving and kind and she left behind a wonderful legacy in her children.

Shawn Hanneman

Tributes

IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY

2024

Tributes in Memory

Jessica Manna

Gregory and Donna Carlson

Bruce Lauritzen

Recognized by the Lauritzen/Morrow Family

Ryan Albritton

Memories for Kids gave our son and his family a trip to the New York Mets spring practice in Florida. Truly a beautiful memory for them!

Jill & Jim Dorman family

Thomas J. Morrow

Recognized by Morrow Family

Chris Jessen

MFK gave our family the "Best Day Ever!"

Recognized Kay, Rachel & Ellie Jessen

Sandy Joseph

This donation is in memory of my late wife, Sandy, who died in 1996 at age 46 from melanoma. Her daughter is Jen Wolf, one of your committee members in Omaha.

John Joseph

Elyse DeTurk

Donation in recognition of our niece Elyse DeTurk.

Daniel Page

Jim Clark

Recognized by Mom & Dad

Jessica Manna

Kirk and Sonya Holmes

Tanya Winegard

My friend, Tanya Winegard, passed away at the age of 52 from Pancreatic cancer. Her family asked for donations to Memories for Kids. Her family was able to make a trip to see the Chicago Cubs play through your organization and I know it was very special for her and her boys.

Ruth Dewhurst

Derrith Murphy

Dearth was a dear friend. She was so grateful for the work of Memories for Kids. Please accept this donation in her memory.

Matt & Lori Rusch

Nichole Strauch

Kellan Strauch

Ryan Albritton

Anonymous

Tributes

IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY

2024

Tributes in Memory

Ryan Albritton

Tribute to Ryan Albritton

Garrett Reilly

Ryan Albritton

Tribute to Ryan Albritton

Anonymous

Ryan Albritton

Tribute to Ryan Albritton

Prashant Nimbalegundi

Amy Parr

Phillip and Kathleen Powell

Tributes in Honor

Jennifer Peterson

Connie Davidson

Lucy K Roop

Bill and Jackie Miller

John and Lindsay Farrell

Kay Farrell

Cindy Guenzel

Jennifer Vasko

Honorary - General

Mathew and Gabrielle Mormino

Honorary - General

Anne Soukup

Trish and Gregg Solko

Trisha and Gregg are the best people - best citizens, best friends, best parents and grandparents - Kind, compassionate, giving.

Connie Davidson

Elizabeth Lucy

Amber Finken

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

Tributes

IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY

2024

Tributes in Honor

Todd Ford

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

Janelle Perez

General Tribute Donation

LouAnn Goding

General Tribute Donation

Brent and Ruth Adkisson

General Tribute Donation

Mathew and Gabrielle Mormino

General Tribute Donation

Margaret Tigges

General Tribute Donation

Roger Iwansky

General Tribute Donation

Anne Soukup

General Tribute Donation

Darrell and Fran Plumb

General Tribute Donation

Brianne Wilhelm

General Tribute Donation

Angie Welsh

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.



FOLLOW US



Memories for Kids



REFER A FAMILY



DONATE



Memories for Kids



402-889-5797



info@memoriesforkids.org



C/O The Collective 10730 Pacific St, STE 040
Omaha, NE 68114



memoriesforkids.org