

Jonas's Fight Against Cancer

JONAS IS OUR HERO-FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019

Nearly 16-year-old Jonas Bramwell was diagnosed with lymphoma on February 26th, 2019. When Jonas began complaining to his parents of back pain a few days earlier they thought he was dehydrated and just needed to drink more water. Little could anyone even imagine, within 72 hours Jonas' pain would become so severe he would need to be taken to the local emergency room and rushed to Lucile Packard Children's Hospital in the Bay Area. Soon after being admitted and diagnosed, doctors determined the cancer was critical and Jonas would need surgery quickly to remove some of the masses of cancerous tumors that had developed behind his abdomen in the retroperitoneal space.

Jonas is a sophomore at Ferndale High School, class president, co-activities commissioner, plays soccer and tennis, is the school mascot, loves drawing and art, and is very active in the church, where his dad is the pastor. Jonas is so loved by all his classmates that when teachers were notified of the cancer diagnosis, trusted school staff went in and broke the news to each individual class. After the tears, students acted quickly coming up with the phrase "Jonas is our HERO" (because of Jonas' love for superheroes). Ferndale High student government ordered thousands of red bracelets with the phrase inscribed to sell not only to raise money for the family but to show support for this incredible young man who is an inspiration to everyone he meets.

Jonas' father, Tyrel Bramwell, is the pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Ferndale. His mother, Jessica, is a student teacher at Ferndale Elementary School and is working on getting her teaching credential. His sister, Bethany, is in 7th grade at Ferndale Jr. High School, loves Superheroes just like her brother, would like to eat ice cream every day for dinner, is an advanced blue belt at JSK 5.0 Humboldt Martial Arts and Fitness, is on student council, and is adored by her teachers and classmates.

Jonas needs months of chemotherapy to kill the remaining tumors and will need to receive the therapy at Lucile Packard Children's hospital 5-hours away in the Bay Area. Jonas and his parents will be making the long trip and staying near the hospital about every three weeks for 5-6 days while Bethany stays in Ferndale with family and friends and stays in school where she feels most comfortable. As you can imagine, the next few months will be financially straining on the family, but the Bramwell's say they will do anything to save their son's life.