



CHRONICLE

A publication of A Special Wish Foundation, Dayton Chapter

OUR MISSION

To grant the Special Wish of a young person, birth through age twenty, who has been diagnosed by a physician as having a life-threatening disorder.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Dayton Chapter of A Special Wish Foundation is the **ONLY** local wish granting organization and over 90 cents of every dollar is used to grant the wishes of our local children.



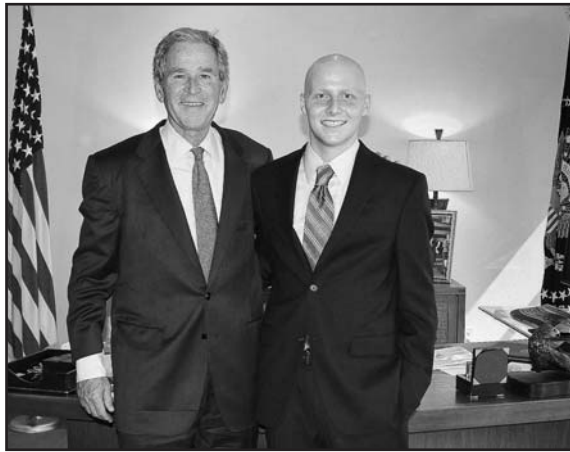
Thanks to the generosity of the Dayton community, the Dayton Chapter of A Special Wish Foundation has been able to grant special wishes to local children for over 27 years.

Texas Size Wish

... Tyler Meets President Bush

To avoid any delays in Tyler's medical treatment, the ASW staff had only 24 hours to arrange his wish to meet President

George W. Bush. After receiving confirmation from the Bush office on Tuesday, the family flew out on Wednesday and met with the President on Friday. President Bush welcomed them with "huge hugs and a handshake." Tyler says, "The experience was beyond amazing, it was like he had known us forever and was just having a regular hang out session with some old friends." The President was continually impressed with Tyler's questions as they discussed politics in his Dallas, Texas office. Tyler received many gifts with the presidential seal such as lapel pins, a tie bar, bookmarks, ink pens, and



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Watch Out Hollywood

... Here Comes Ally!

Allyson has been a fan of Disney's *Wizards of Waverly Place* since the show first aired in 2007. When she and her family heard about A Special Wish for Ally, who has Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, they knew they had to visit Waverly Place. "All those days in the hospital we spoke of the Wish for Ally. It really got her through a lot of hard times," says mom, Janel. A Special Wish granted Ally's Wish in Hollywood fashion: Limousines to the airport, tickets to the *Wizards of Waverly Place* show taping, and even a meet-and-greet with Allyson's favorite characters (played by Selena Gomez, David Henrie, Jake Austin, and Jennifer Stone). "The Wish far exceeded all of our expectations, which was hard to



do since we have been dreaming this up for over a year," said mom, Janel. Also while in California the Barnett family visited Disneyland on her birthday (10-10-10!), visited Legoland, and took in many California sights!





Bill Elam

... Honoring a
Fallen Star

A Special Wish Foundation was saddened to learn that Bill Elam, founder of Bill's Donut Shop in Centerville and long-time supporter of the Foundation, passed away on August 16, 2010. In 1983 Bill and Faye donated \$1500 to A Special Wish Foundation's very first wish. Young Bryan, diagnosed with Leukemia was granted the opportunity to visit Walt Disney World. Since then, and for the last 27 years, Mr. Elam and Bill's Donuts have been one of A Special Wish Foundation's biggest community supporters while granting wishes to deserving children in the local community. Over the years, Bill's Donuts has sponsored many wishes. Not only that, but they helped us celebrate Wish Milestones #1, #500, #600, and #900; initiated a Christmas giving program; Business Card Board; Wishing Wells on countertops; participated in A Special Wish Foundation's Annual Glow Fore Wishes golf outing; and have publicized A Special Wish at their Centerville donut shop since the beginning. A Special Wish Foundation Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and Wish families are forever grateful to Bill Elam for helping us bring countless smiles to those Special Wish children in our community. A Special Wish Foundation is proud to announce that we will be starting an annual sponsorship award in honor of Bill's memory for those dedicating invaluable hours and commitment to A Special Wish.



Chamella Goes Shopping

... Thanks to Miller Lane Wal-Mart

Chamella's shopping spree wish started with a "surprise" limo ride from her home to the Miller Lane Wal-Mart. The priority purchases on her list were a new bike and helmet and an Apple iPod. Both items were in blue, her favorite color. The manager, Mike Divis, of Wal-Mart, arranged to have one of his associates accompany Chamella during her shopping adventure, helping her to find the items she had on her list. When Chamella couldn't find a specific comforter that she wanted, the associate had some of



her personnel go back into the stockroom to check if they could find it. To Chamella's delight they found exactly what she wanted. It was a day of relaxation and enjoyment, and her illness and treatments were not the main focus for the day! Wal-Mart employees even honored her as "Employee of the Day," as she had her fair share of training with the item scanner. The family says to all those involved in making Chamella's Wish a reality, "Thank you for all the kindness you have shown our family during this time."



Texas...

Continued from page 1

a Challenge Coin from President Bush. The coin, usually only given to those in the military, was given to Tyler because Bush believed, "He was fighting a similar fight." Tyler is now believed to be the only civilian with no relation to the military who holds this coin, according to Bush staff members.

Before and after the visit with the former President, Tyler and his family enjoyed the "bigger in Texas" lifestyle while visiting the Dallas Cowboys Stadium, Texas State Fair, Dallas Aquarium, the Sixth Floor Museum honoring President John F. Kennedy, Fort Worth Zoo, the Dallas Arboretum and much more! "It was one of the best trips of our lives," Tyler said.

Did You Know?

The Dayton Chapter of A Special Wish Foundation...

- ★ Has granted over 1400 wishes to children living in a six-county area: Montgomery, Mercer, Miami, Greene, Shelby and Darke.
- ★ Is operated by local Volunteer Ambassadors, has only two full-time and one part-time employees, and is guided by an all-volunteer local Board of Directors.
- ★ Is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization and a member of the Better Business Bureau.
- ★ Is funded through the generosity of Miami Valley residents and organizations.
- ★ Is the largest Special Wish chapter in the nation and fulfills a variety of special wishes. Although 60 percent of our wishes last year were for Walt Disney World trips, we also fulfill a wide range of other wishes.

Special Volunteers: Distance 4 Dreams

Distance 4 Dreams is a student based organization started in 2007 by Katie Prysbyz, an intern at A Special Wish Foundation, and her friends Anna Young and Lisa Monnot. All of them wanted to complete a marathon for a meaningful cause. They recruited over 50 University of Dayton students to run and raise funds for A Special Wish. The members of the organization train for the half or full marathons at Walt Disney World while raising money for an A Special Wish family to visit Give Kids the World Village in



Orlando, Florida. The students are creative with the fundraising efforts offering Mickey Mouse Pancake Breakfasts, Minnie Marathon 5k races, and Disney Karaoke Nights. The planning and participation has sent five families to Walt Disney World and is continuing to grow. But that is not all: Wittenberg and Xavier Universities have started a Distance 4 Dreams on their college campuses. Visit distance4dreams.org for more information.

Upcoming Events: Valentine's Dance



A Special Wish Foundation, along with Sue Miller, Dona Niswonger and Cyndi Scarpelli of 3 Hearts Productions invites you to a night full of dance, entertainment, food and drinks at the 6th Annual Valentine's Dance. The event will be held in The Winter Garden at the Schuster Center in Dayton, Ohio on February 18, 2011. All proceeds

from sponsoring this event will benefit A Special Wish Foundation in granting wishes for children in the Miami Valley. This eventful evening will include live music and dance provided by Gem City Jazz, Dancing with the Dayton Stars competition, a silent auction and raffle. An array of heavy hors d'oeuvres and a magnificent chocolate fountain are included with each ticket (Reserved Table Seating).

Sponsoring and contributing to this amazing event is truly an opportunity to change a child's life forever! There are a variety of opportunities which can be found at aspecialwish.org. All sponsor donations will be appreciated and acknowledged for the evening, with nothing being turned away. We thank you in advance for your consideration in sponsoring this great event in support of A Special Wish Foundation.

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Ways You Can Help

A Special Wish Foundation is making a difference in the Miami Valley granting wishes to children in Montgomery, Greene, Darke, Shelby, Mercer, and Miami counties. Together, we can grant the wishes of every eligible child in the Miami Valley. Ways you can help:

- ★ **Refer a Child** – Anyone can refer a child for consideration by A Special Wish. Call 937.223.WISH
- ★ **Make a donation*** – your gift is tax deductible. Please help us by sending your donation to: **A Special Wish Foundation, Inc.**
436 Valley Street
Dayton, OH 45404
- ★ **Host** a fundraising event.
- ★ **Volunteer** – We invite you to join us as we continue to grant special wishes.
- ★ **Enroll** in Dorothy Lane Market's Good Neighbor Program and choose *A Special Wish Foundation* as your charity of choice.
- ★ **Connect** with A Special Wish Foundation on Facebook and LinkedIn.

**Donations can be anonymous. Please contact the Special Wish office at 937.223.WISH*



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Dayton, Ohio 45404

www.aspecialwish.org

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Interested in Referring a Child, Volunteering or Donating?

For more information call 937-223-9474 or 1-866-414-9474 or e-mail us at aspecialwish@childrensdayton.org

