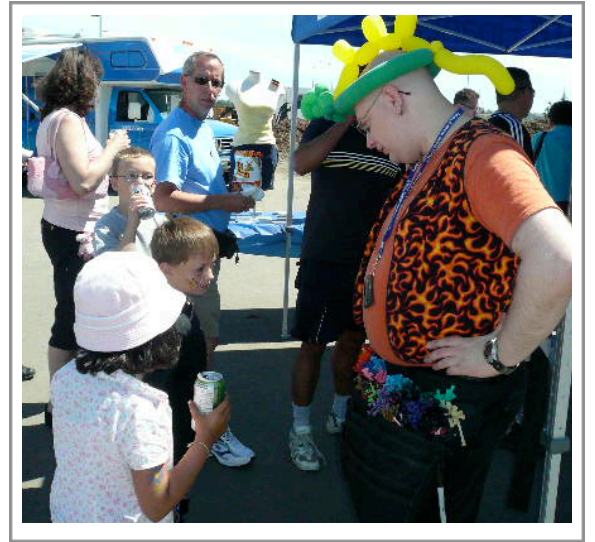


2010 Rally for Kent



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This letter is about someone in our community that needs our help. Every year, thousands of Canadians with cancer are challenged by the lack of Government funding for experimental cancer treatments. Often, these patients have no alternative but to turn to family and friends to fund life saving medical treatments. Kent Pankow and his family have had to pay for treatments not yet covered by Alberta Health. Having exhausted all traditional avenues to raise the money for numerous treatments and surgery, **Rally for Kent** was initiated to help Kent pay for life saving treatments.



Kent was diagnosed in January 2000 with brain cancer and after two surgeries and numerous chemotherapy sessions, he beat the cancer! For seven years, Kent lived cancer free and then the cancer returned in 2008. This time, treatment was more difficult because Kent had developed a resistance to the chemotherapy treatments used in 2000 making it very difficult and painstakingly slow to cure the cancer. Desperate to save his life, Kent went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota to undergo life saving surgery at a cost of over \$100,000 CDN. Unfortunately the delays in finding an effective chemotherapy treatment resulted in only 90% removal of the tumor and continued chemotherapy treatments. The drugs that were effective for Kent were not covered by a health care plan and cost more than of \$10,000 CDN per month. The bills have added up and now Kent needs our help. See Kent's Story later in the package for more information.

Rally for Kent is a full year fundraising initiative. The first event takes place at the Ramada Hotel on Kingsway Ave on Saturday, May 29th from noon to 7:00 pm with over 1,000 families, motorcycle and car enthusiasts and supporters expected. The day will be filled with many activities including a motorcycle rally, car cruise, family fun, live entertainment, food, and auction. Please consider supporting this event by attending, donating an auction item or becoming a sponsor. For details on the event, visit www.GoTeamKent.com. You can contribute auction items by contacting Deb Hurford at team.kent@hotmail.com. The following pages detail the contribution opportunities for your consideration. Your support for this cause is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Steve Thompson

2010 Rally for Kent

Kent's Story

Kent William Pankow was raised just east of Olds on the Steve and Janette Pankow farm, with his brother Scott. He attended the Culinary Arts program at NAIT and graduated as a Red Seal Chef in 1991. Kent spent most of his career working as a sous chef for Westin Hotels in Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Highlights of Kent's career include representing Canada in Taiwan as an expert in Canadian cuisine for the Canadian Federation of Beef, and assisting Executive Chef Emmanuel David of Team Alberta in preparation for the World Culinary Olympic Competitions in Luxembourg, Berlin and Frankfurt. Kent has been the Volunteer Chef Coordinator for the Cancer Relay for Life and the Kids for Cancer Run on several occasions. As a 10 year cancer Survivor, Kent also actively supports and mentors people of all ages who are battling various forms of the disease. In 2006 Kent married Deborah Hurford, and they live in Edmonton.

Kent's Battle with Brain Cancer

January 2000 – Kent had a seizure and was diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumor, the size of a golf ball, in the right frontal lobe of his brain. He successfully underwent 2 skull surgeries, maximum radiation, and Temadol chemo treatment at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton. Kent remained stable for 7 years, despite the fact that most GBM patients die within a year of diagnosis. Given the aggressive nature of GBM tumours, Kent's recovery was considered remarkable - but for anyone who knows him, he's no quitter, so you know the rest...

February 2008 – During Kent's annual MRI, two small tumour spots were noted in his right frontal lobe and Kent received Temadol, then CCNU and finally Etoposide chemo from May 2008 until August of 2009. During this 16-month period the tumour continued to grow but the Alberta Cancer Board did not approve Kent as a candidate for surgery.

September of 2009 – Kent went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, for a second opinion and life-saving surgery, utilizing an MRI surgical suite and advanced brain mapping techniques. The result – another amazing recovery! Once again, Kent astounded his family, friends and doctors, but the medical expenses were a daunting \$86,000.00 US!

November 2009 – Since Mayo doctors were only able to remove 90-95% of the tumour, Kent was prescribed an anti-angiogenesis drug called Avastin, along with Etoposide chemo, to attack the remaining tumour cells. Avastin is not currently covered by Alberta Health Services for brain cancer, so Kent's treatments cost a staggering \$4,555.00 CDN every two weeks. Kent had 11 Avastin treatments and his tumour remained stable until mid March of 2010, when it showed signs of progression once again.

March 2010 – Kent is currently taking a daily high dose of Tamoxifen chemo and he continues to fight his battle with courage and determination. Over 1,000 people have been following his journey on Facebook and these members of "Team Kent" are a source of inspiration and strength.

Kent purchased his Harley Davidson motorcycle a year before his diagnosis, and he says that riding is still the BEST medicine...

For further details about Kent's incredible story go to the Team-Kent Pankow Facebook page:
<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=9933&id=100000362375869&l=7e1944dcd9>

Or email team.kent@hotmail.com to receive email updates from Kent and Deb.