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Stanley’s Dream Fund announces $5,000 grant award to Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia for Childhood Brain Cancer Research

West Chester, PA — On June 12, Donna and Stanley Edwards presented a $5,000 grant check to Pediatric Oncologist Dr. Peter C. Phillips and Dr. Jean B. Belasco at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (C.H.O.P.), to fund the Hospital’s childhood brain cancer research projects. The grant represented a portion of the proceeds raised by the Stanley’s Dream Fund in honor of their son, Stanley Austin Edwards who passed away from brain cancer in 2002. Stanley’s primary doctor at C.H.O.P. was Dr. Jean B. Belasco. This is the eighth gift to C.H.O.P. in an ongoing effort to fund research to find a cure for brain cancer. The Stanley’s Dream Foundation also awards scholarships each year to graduating Chester County high school students in honor of their son. To date, approximately twenty four scholarships totaling over $22,000 have been awarded in Stanley’s memory.

Stanley Austin Edwards was a gifted and devoted student whose dream was to attend Notre Dame University. Also a promising athlete, he excelled in basketball, football, and golf. Stanley was diagnosed with brain cancer when he was in 7th grade at age 12. Donna notes “After surgery to remove the tumor, Stan developed learning disabilities, due to the tumor’s location, as well as paralysis in his right arm, preventing him from participating in the many sports that he so loved. Nevertheless, he continued to focus on his education, determined to one day attend college.” Stanley passed away at age 14 while a freshman at Henderson High School in West Chester.

Donna continues, “Stanley never complained during his courageous battle with this disease. Although his cancer had returned and the prognosis was grim, he was determined that he would beat the odds and fulfill his dream. Prior to his death, he displayed strength, courage, and dignity far beyond his years.” It is Stan’s parent’s desire that his legacy be kept alive through awarding grants and scholarships in his name to further childhood brain cancer research and to assist students in attaining Stanley’s dream.
Each year, Stanley’s Dream Fund holds fundraisers to support brain cancer research and the Stanley Austin Edwards Memorial Scholarship; one such event – the sixth annual Stanley’s Dream Run – was held on New Year’s Day 2014 in West Chester. Stanley’s Dream will hold their 8th Annual Golf Classic at Broad Run Golfer’s Club in West Chester, PA on Saturday, August 12th. Information regarding this event can be found at www.stanleystimeline.org. All proceeds benefit the STANLEY’S DREAM FUND managed by the Chester County Community Foundation.

Stanley’s Dream is a fund of the Chester County Community Foundation. Located in downtown West Chester, the Foundation leads, inspires and encourages organizations and individuals to contribute to lasting philanthropic charitable legacies. For more information regarding Stanley’s Dream or the Chester County Community Foundation, contact www.chesocf.org or 610-696-8211. ###