

Alexis Story

Mommy, I don't want to leave you and Daddy.....



I doubt there is a stronger bond on this earth than the one between a mother and child.

Our daughter Alexis was in a hurry to come into this world as she arrived at 27 weeks of gestation and weighed 2 pounds and 4 ounces. She was so tiny that she could lie comfortably in my husband's palm.

Little did we know at this time that that McMaster Hospital in Hamilton would become our second home.

A few months later our happiness was shaken. We noticed Alexis's eyes and head began to quake and our Doctors assumed a brain tumor was the cause. After her first MRI we were relieved to find out it was not a tumor and we were temporarily calmed and thankful.

Little did we know the worst was yet to come. As time passed, Alexis was suspected of suffering from Mitochondrial disease, a progressive debilitating disease that kills more children than Cancer – sadly there is no known cure. Alexis underwent every test known to the medical community and these tests confirmed our worst fears. By this time she was considered to be legally blind. But thank goodness she could hear us. She loved listening to her *song of love* and the calming breezes of the summer season. We were so pleased that these simple pleasures seem to calm her and bring her a sense of comfort.

If this devastating disease doesn't destroy the life of a young child it can be the cause of Cancer, Autism, ALS, Alzheimer and Parkinson disease.

At 3 years old our doctors did not give Alexis any more time to live. However, we learned our daughter had amazing strength and a driving force to live. Two years later on September 2, 2010 Alexis passed away— she was 5 years old. Alexis was and is loved by all those who touched her life. Her strength and tenacity give my husband and I the strength to approach each day without her.

A loving Mother and Father

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