



Reid's Story

I wish to go to Great Wolf Lodge

Reid, age 9
heart condition

Reid was born with a heart defect where blood couldn't travel its usual route to pick up oxygen from the lungs. As a result, Reid has spent lots of time in hospital over his young life. Despite this, Reid has been able to play sports. He's the Assistant Captain of his hockey team and loves to go biking and play soccer. When he's not playing sports, he enjoys hanging out with his sisters making up music videos and skits or playing video games.

Reid, his parents and sisters Alexa, Emery, and Jaiden all travelled to Niagara Falls for his wish to ride the waterslides at Great Wolf Lodge. He was excited to share the trip with his entire family. "When we pulled up to Great Wolf Lodge, the kids all went BANANAS" said mom Andrea. "They were literally hooting, hollering and howling with excitement!" They spent hours upon hours enjoying the waterpark. Reid particularly loved the Wolf Tail slide where you stand in a tube and wait for the floor to drop out from beneath you. You then plummet into a nearly vertical, 20-foot free fall followed immediately by a 360-degree, high-speed loop. Andrea explained, "He loved it so much, he made all the adults try it at least once, as he watched with an evil grin!"

While in Niagara Falls, the family enjoyed a fancy dinner out at the Japanese restaurant Benihana. Their highly skilled personal chef entertained them while cooking in traditional Japanese style on a hibachi table right in front of them. Reid even caught a prawn in his mouth tossed to him from the chef! The family loved seeing the fireworks over Niagara Falls and hitting the arcade on the main strip. They even managed to fit in a Toronto Blue Jays game on the 30th anniversary of their World Series win. Every day of the wish held its own magical experience.

Mom Andrea explained the impact of this wish on their family. "The wish coming true was healing for our whole family on many levels. The celebration of Reid, and the adversity he has faced and the adversity that is still to come...it meant the world to us. He loved every minute of it. Thank you all so much."

Hope is essential for children with critical illnesses, and its life-changing power is unlocked when wishes like Reid's are granted. It is thanks to the generous support from our donor community, that we can continue to transform lives, one wish at a time.