

Better to Give than Receive

Better to Give than Receive

My Mom has always taught me that it is better to give than to receive and that "the generous soul will itself be made fat, and the one freely watering others, will himself also be freely watered". (Proverbs 11:25) What I learned and also enjoyed reading about the Mikey's Way Foundation, was how a 15 year old kid with cancer, could be so encouraging not only to children but to all. Michael Friedman turned his life's experience into a positive one for other kids dealing with a terrible disease, such as cancer.

My social studies teacher recently told me that I have the ability to have excellent leadership skills, but I really did not know what she meant until I read Michael's essay. His story has inspired me to put my best foot forward in helping others in any way that I can. His story has made a difference in my life. I realize that cancer is a serious disease and I could not imagine having to deal with such a sickness at a young age. I also did not understand what chemotherapy or Sarcoma was until I did some research. I found out that chemotherapy is a treatment to stop cancer cells from growing. Mikey went through a lot that caused him to spend weeks in the hospital.



When I look at his picture, I do not see a sick boy, but a hero who gives life meaning. Mikey realized that in order to make his hospital stay a positive and productive one, he would have to occupy his time with the things a 15 year old kid would enjoy doing. As a pre-teen, I also love playing video games, computers and interactive electronic toys. Mikey realized that he wanted to give others what he would want as a child and therefore started the Mikey's Way Foundation. I am sure any kid with cancer is thankful for his motivation and inspiration to freely give of himself. Because of Mikey's willing spirit, I believe he will overcome any obstacle that he is challenged with. I hope one day, I will be able to make a difference in someone's life, like Michael Friedman, "Mikey".

By: KeaLani Jack
April 25, 2006