

Paisley King



Paisley's cancer journey began on Thursday, January 19, 2017. She woke up and was happy and smiley that morning. She was dropped off at daycare like any other day. She had been fighting croup, but she was getting better day by day. Daycare contacted her Mom, Brooke, saying something wasn't right with Paisley. She wouldn't eat, her stomach was hard, and she was very unhappy, which is very unusual for her.

Paisley's Grandma and Grandpa Zoss went and picked her up and knew something was not right with her. The right side of her stomach was bulging. They decided to take her to the E.R. in Mitchell. Once there, they did an x-ray and an ultrasound. Doctors informed her parents that she had a mass on her liver and sent them to the Castle in Sioux Falls. Paisley's Dad was working in Oklahoma and he began the 15 hour drive home while Paisley was admitted to the Sanford Castle that night.

On Friday, January 20, the oncologist, Dr.Wagner, broke the news to the family that Paisley had liver cancer. She explained that it was common in premature babies and that Paisley fit the bill, being 5 weeks early. The oncology team explained that her tumor was 10 centimeters in diameter, and was contained in her liver. Unfortunately, it was too large to remove at that time, so chemo would be needed to shrink the tumor. A port was placed and she started her first round of chemo January 23.

After completing 2 rounds of chemo, the doctors rescanned the tumor March 6, and found that it had shrunk by 50%. The oncology team decided to do two more rounds of chemo to shrink the tumor more so they could leave over half of her liver. The family met with the transplant team at the University of Minnesota March 20-21, just in case the liver was unable to be saved after the 4th round of chemo. Paisley finished her last round of chemo April 20, and they received good news. The tumor had shrunk enough to be able to safely remove it. Surgery to remove the tumor was completed on May 8th, and she recently completed round 5 of chemo.

Paisley has been a trooper through this whole process. She begins and ends each day with a smile! She is an inspiration to us all!