

Kevin Manderscheid's IMPACT Story

11/7/16



Kevin Manderscheid was diagnosed with Gliosarcoma, stage 4 in February 2016. He suffered from severe headaches, loss of cognitive functions, and memory loss. He was diagnosed and had a craniotomy within three days of finding the tumor. Kevin had surgery which was able to remove approximately 80 % of the tumor. Kevin spent 3 weeks recovering from surgery and completing inpatient Bootcamp which consisted of daily speech, physical, and occupational therapy. He then completed 6 weeks of radiation and 42 days of chemotherapy. Kevin continued to receive for the following six months.

During that time, we were connected to the EndBrainCancer Initiative (formerly known as the Chris Elliott Fund), through Kevin's boss. Kevin's boss knew of the vital and beneficial help and support that Dellann and the EndBrainCancer Initiative (EBCI) had provided to his neighbor who also was diagnosed with a brain tumor.



We were able to meet with Dellann and her team at the EBCI's "Direct Connect" Center in Redmond, WA. We had the opportunity to become educated about various options for brain tumor patients. Dellann provided numerous resources for us including knowledge of top neuro-oncologists in the area and out of state. She provided us with literature to read, connected us with Naturopaths, survivors, and helped us acquire 2nd and 3rd opinions from other top doctors in the area. She also referred us to major brain tumor centers noted for their excellence, and helped us develop a connection with doctors specializing in brain tumors in case we needed to travel for clinical trials or continuing treatments. She educated us on the options that were available to us before surgery which we were totally unaware of at the time. We only knew what our doctors had recommended to us which was limited information. Dellann and her team have made our lives so much easier by doing the research and networking with many patients to acquire a deep understanding of patient needs and available resources. This is imperative to brain tumor patients as time is of the essence to seek treatment. The EBCI has given Kevin HOPE and a chance to survive this disease.

We were fortunate to be invited to attend the EBCI's Annual "Brains Matter" Awareness, Auction, and Celebration Luncheon where we were introduced to many other survivors and heard from Dr. Desjardins from Duke University that is piloting the use of the polio virus to treat brain tumors.

We continue to work with the EBCI and keep them updated on Kevin's progress. Dellann continues to seek out specialists and connect with innovative, cutting edge therapies. Dellann gave us great direction on becoming advocates and treating this disease in an aggressive manner. We cannot thank Dellann and the team at the EBCI enough for their guidance, compassion and support. It has been a complete pleasure working with the EBCI and knowing that we are not alone in this battle. If you are in a position to support their work, please go to www.endbraincancer.org to give a gift. Gifts to this organization help them to provide all of their services free to patients and caregivers. It is how Kevin has been given a second chance to live.



At this time, Kevin is still receiving monthly chemotherapy treatments and has returned to work full time as a managing partner for Outback Steakhouse. He is learning strategies to cope with his expressive aphasia and short term memory deficits. We are extremely grateful to have such caring and supportive employees as well as an incredibly supportive executive team at Evergreen Restaurant Group.

Our lives are forever changed by the kindness and compassion of people around us.

Sincerely,
Kevin and Stephanie Manderscheid

