

SEP 29 REC'D

September 24, 2015

Dear Grand Exalted Ruler Hicks,

On Sunday, September 13, 2015 we gathered together to show an outpouring of support for a little girl named, Grace. We were able to embrace this little girl, her family and an entire community at the The Glastonbury Elks Lodge 2202, in South Glastonbury, CT. We needed to find a location that could accommodate 200 plus people and The Glastonbury Elks was picture-perfect. Not only was the location perfect but all the staff, especially Sherry Perleoni (Rental Agent) and Dave Bassette (Leading Knight), were instrumental in making this event such a huge success.

We like to share a bit of Grace's story...

Grace was born October 13, 2013 with a benign brain mass called a midline per colossal lipoma (tumor). Grace has been admitted into CCMC (Connecticut Children's Medical Center) several times and has endured countless surgeries with very little success. Grace has been put on a nasal gastro tube to relieve her abdominal pressure, she has a tethered spinal cord, she has been diagnosed with chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction, she has had a central line put in to receive the TPN (total parenteral nutrition), and she has an ileostomy. She has endured countless additional procedures. A trip to Boston Children's Hospital is in the works for some extensive motility testing to try to determine an accurate diagnosis and prognosis. It has yet to be determined by the G.I. staff at CCMC and their colleagues in Boston, when the family will be traveling up there. Throughout this nightmare, Grace's older brother Max (4) has struggled with missing his baby sister. In addition one parent is always home and the other with Grace, she is never left alone in the hospital, ever. Grace's young parents, Paul and Cate Jensen, continue to keep a positive outlook as they support their baby girl.

Grace was able to attend this wonderful event but had to be admitted into the hospital the next morning due to spiking a high fever. We would like to thank you on behalf of an entire community and especially The Jensen Family, for providing such a wonderful organization for this event.

Best Regards,
For the Love of Grace Committee
Amy D. Veilleux (2308)

