

Circle of joy

MAR 2019

Eaden's WISH

"I wish to have a fishing boat!"

Eaden, 16, leukemia

A few summers ago, Vancouver Island teen, Eaden, discovered that he had a love for fishing. He was invited along on a fishing excursion with a friend and he was hooked.

In the summer of 2017, Eaden started experiencing low energy over a period of several weeks. It got bad enough that his mom, Teresa, decided it was time to call the doctor.

"In the course of one phone call, and a quick visit to the emergency room, our whole lives changed."

A blood test confirmed a diagnosis of acute myeloid leukemia (AML). In a matter of hours from diagnosis, Eaden was given a blood transfusion, and rushed to Vancouver to start a course of treatment at BC Children's Hospital. Eaden and his mom lived at Ronald MacDonald House for months while Eaden underwent treatment. When Eaden was able to take breaks from the hospital, he realized that his passion for fishing made for the perfect escape. He didn't have much energy, so sitting in a boat was ideal. And, he needed to avoid crowds to avoid an infection.

Eaden's number one choice for his wish was a fishing boat. "There was no plan B", his mom, recalled. Eaden spent hours choosing customizations for a boat: an overhead canopy to protect him from the sun—treatments have made him photosensitive—and a cushy captain's chair to keep him comfortable while on board.

His literal dreamboat was presented to him just recently, and Eaden couldn't be happier. He planned to spend as much time as possible fishing during spring break. His treatments continue until January 2021. But thanks to Make-A-Wish, he is out on the water as much as he can be. "An incredible, heart-felt 'thank you' for bringing joy to him," said Teresa. "We can't say thank you enough. This boat won't be gathering dust." Tight lines, Eaden. **#WishGranted**

Adopted By: **Fleet Overhaul at Coast Mountain Bus Company**



Make-A-Wish
BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON CANADA