

Circle of joy

JAN 2019

Mae's WISH

"I wish to dress like and meet Disney Princesses!"

Mae, 5, brain stem tumor

The hardest decisions during the week Mae spent in Florida, were over which rides to do again at Disney World.

"Mae loved the rides at Magic Kingdom," said Mae's mom, Tessa, "especially the tea cups and the Dumbo ride."

It's all a very different picture from the last several years of Mae's life, when every decision affected Mae's health. Mae was 20 months old when she was diagnosed with a brain stem tumour, the size of a tennis ball, which affected multiple aspects of Mae's young life. At the time of her diagnosis, Mae could not walk or talk, and she was tube-fed. There were decisions about surgery, about different treatment paths, about therapies.

"To see Mae's wish granted was very special," said Tessa. "A once-in-a-lifetime celebration of Mae. She loves all things pretty—to look nice and dress nice. On the actual day of her wish coming true, during her princess makeover and special one-one-one time with [Cinderella]—I got pretty emotional."

Tessa said it was especially nice to see Mae—who has two older brothers and often ends up doing what they're doing—have her own special moment that was true to who Mae is.

"I don't really know how to express our thanks," said Tessa. "It was all so relaxing, so special. So perfect."

As of today, Mae's MRIs are clear. She will only need a new scan once a year. With a little Disney magic added into the mix, courtesy of Make-A-Wish, Mae's family has some special memories to look back on as they watch Mae continue to improve.

Referered by: BC Children's Nurse, Naomi Evans

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