

Steven Sadlowski

July 26, 2000 - January 11, 2012



Shortly before his third birthday in July 2003 Steven Sadlowski was diagnosed with Rhabdomyosarcoma (fast-growing, highly malignant tumor) in his right middle ear. It was a very disheartening time for Steven and his family. Steven had to undergo 42 weeks of chemotherapy and 25 sessions of radiation therapy at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He underwent numerous operations. The frequent visits to the hospital were very exhausting and every treatment caused loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting. But Steven never gave up. He was very aware of his illness and was very brave, cooperative, and determined to

get better. Steven participated in The Bravery Bead Program where he collected a different bead for each procedure while at treatment. The collection of beads represents Stevens' unique and personal journey through treatment. When he lost his hair Steven kept joking that his hair would grow back but his dad's won't, and he was right. Steven finished his treatment in April 2004 followed by a surgery to remove the remains of the tumor, but luckily it was only scar tissue. However Steven faced 3 more reoccurrences of this vicious disease and while he fought valiantly, he succumbed to his fourth battle.

Steven Sadlowski passed away yesterday afternoon, January 11, 2012. He passed at home with his Mother and Father by his side to love and comfort him. Steven was a terrific kid, he loved his family, his friends and of course the game he loved so much; hockey. He is an example of the Lorne Park Mission Statement, play safe, have fun, show respect and do your best. These are the rules that Steven lived by, he was a shining example of the Human Spirit and had more strength than people many years his senior. We all send our Love and Prayers to Steven's family, he will be missed by all who knew him and will remain in our hearts and memories.



Mike Doyle, President, Lorne Park Hockey Association

To quote from his coach's submission to Lorne Park Awards Committee in 2008:

It is not because of his courageous battle, that we, the coaching staff of LP34, believe that he should win this award. It is not because he is the best goalie a team could have either.

It is not out of sympathy or pity. It is because of his "love of the game", his strength, and his passion, his loyalty, his determination, and his dedication to excellence. I know of no one else that could have gone through 10 rounds of grueling chemotherapy, and still played the entire season, except for the last (20) game. Steven was able to do this because of his love of the game. He played in goal on his knees when he could not stand up. He never gave up and never will. He achieved shutouts. When he played out (which he loves) he achieved assists. He was able to score goals himself.

He would play out when he felt he was not able to stand in net for an entire game. When he would play out, it was extremely difficult to watch him, as there was always a concern of injury. But this was not his concern. You would only have to see him to believe it! His determination and dedication to contribute to our team's success is truly inspirational. Steven's love of the game can be summed up this way: Steven had minor surgery on Jan19 to install lines for his stem cell therapy. This was a day surgery and the lines were exposed. When he was going home, he asked the doctor at Sick Kids if he could play hockey. The doctor of course said no. Steven asked if he could play hockey in the basement of his house. The doctor asked Steven, "What do you mean?" Steven said, "I just want to practice my slap shot". The doctor said, "Practice a wrist shot only!" Richard, Steven's father, said that when they got home, Steven went directly to the basement and practiced his wrist shot for a couple of hours.

The thoughts and prayers of the entire LPHA membership are extended to Steven's family, friends and teammates.