WHY WE FLUTTER: ELAYNA

Elayna was diagnosed in April of 2014 (at 5 years old) with stage 3 kidney cancer. We watched our sweet girl's life change in an instant. She had major surgeries, chemotherapy, and radiation, and everyone truly thought she had beat her cancer. We celebrated remission, but last fall we were told that she had relapsed. It was the new worst day of our lives. We knew that her treatment would be harder and longer, and that our chances of beating it weren't as great.

Watching her fight this second time has been excruciating. The worst part has been that there is no direct treatment path this time - and that is directly because of a lack in funding for pediatric cancer research. It's horrifying having to make choices that could cost your child their life. She has recently completed treatment a second time- now we wait and deal with the many side effects that come from harsh treatment.

You would think that this little girl would feel sorry for herself. What Elayna does instead is that she enjoys every minute of her life as best she can. It's inspiring. While other children are wishing for toys, she is wishing for a cure for all children with cancer. So am I.

I believe that Unravel can help us cure childhood cancer, and that is why Elayna and I spend the month of September fluttering. Please consider donating in honor of children who continue to fight.– *Lucy Sandeen, Elayna's mother*

About Unravel Pediatric Cancer

Inspired by the life of Jennifer Lynn Kranz, who was diagnosed with an incurable brain tumor called DIPG on her sixth birthday, Unravel is working to spread awareness about the harsh realities of pediatric cancer research, which is alarmingly and devastatingly underfunded. All money raised by and for Unravel goes *directly* to the fight against pediatric cancer. To find out more about what Unravel supports, please visit our website at www.unravelpediatriccancer.org.