

lining. Like she said "if it had to be someone it rather her than her brother or a friend," and that she could use her disease to help. She believed in the doctors and the medicine and us, her parents. But she was also scared too. She felt alone a lot and she felt different too. Parts of her life that she loved were now over ... like soccer and some friends weren't involved as much. She was aware that people stared at her but she stared back until they looked away."

Finally, she was asked to say something to people who have gone through or are going through this experience, and her response is quite touching;

"No matter what the battle is ... a disease, poverty, abuse, etc. everyday find a positive and hold on to it. Make memories with the people you care about and do things that make you happy. Happiness even when brief gives strength to last through the hardest times and darkest moments. Looking for answers seems to just cause misery, it is hard to be in the now when you are stuck in a moment that you cannot control or change. It is OK to have wounds, it is OK to have stories that are not sugar and spice and perfect. Own your story and find ways to make your story heard. Relief comes in time and unexpected and sometimes it will be fleeting and infrequent but it will find you before you can find it."

Taking away young beautiful minds and souls from us, Childhood cancer is a major problem that must be dealt with. There are many organizations helping fight Childhood cancer, and some do it one cup of lemonade at a time. Alex's Lemonade Stand was founded with the goal of setting up lemonade stands and various other lemonade associated events around the world in order to raise money to help combat this problem. One of the local branches recently raised around \$2000 for research in a single day by holding a Victorian style tea party (There was also lemonade of course).

In conclusion, you can visit this organization, or organizations like this in order to help fight this disease. Every little bit helps doctors get closer to find an end for this horrible disease. A disease that has taken as many as 2,000 children a year in the United States alone over the past 16 years. That is too large of a number not to be noticed. This is an issue that must be stopped.

### *In Memory of Jordan DuPriest*



#### *The Mother Sea Turtle ~ by Jordan DuPriest*

*In the calm cool night she peeked her head out  
Up and out of the ocean  
Slowly she swam up to the coastline  
And climbed out with ever slow motion.*

*For this is a mother sea turtle  
Focused on laying her clutch  
Ready to hide it as well as she can  
Deep where no one can touch.*

*She scurries to the highest dunes  
While we lay down asleep  
And digs a hole into the sand  
That's dry, dark, and deep.*

*In the hole she lays her eggs  
Then buries them in sand  
She turns away towards the water  
And retreats from the land.*

*She swims away with gliding grace  
A true treasure of the sea  
She will return again next year  
To continue her legacy.*

*Pictured by her mother, DuPriest craving and eating soup after a chemotherapy session*

*Poem by DuPriest written in 2012*

*All Pictures are courtesy of Mrs. Kimberly Keller DuPriest*



# Resilience of Life

The fire in our hearts that will never extinguish.

by Arthur Street  
Staff Reporter

Not too long ago, there was a girl who could make you smile no matter what mood you were in. A girl whose passion for what she loved kept her strong even through the roughest times. Even 3 years after her passing, a girl whose beautiful fire of a soul keeps her memory burning bright in our hearts. Her name is Jordan DuPriest, one of the purest human beings who as ever graced the earth.



Jordan DuPriest in 3rd Grade

Jordan lost her battle with cancer in late 2013 and of course, like any loved one, nobody wanted her to pass away. Out of respect, when she had passed away, whether they knew her or not, each and every student in each and every hallway in the school was brought to a deafening silence, with the only exception of sound being the muffled sounds of crying. That's just how much of an affect Jordan has always had on people whom she knew.

With this past September being Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, it was thought that now would be an appropriate time to share this story with you. So you can understand the impact that losing an amazing person such like her from cancer is too big of a problem that should be helped.

Recounting Jordan's time on the earth, her mother, Kimberly Keller DuPriest:

"Jordan was an extremely caring person, she wanted to help everyone and everything, from animals and people, to the planet. She was, extremely inquisitive, starting from a toddler she wanted to know about everything within her world. When she was 3 she loved to pull out these old encyclopedias and she would turn the pages 'til she found a picture and she would say 'Show me'. She wanted me to tell her about the pictures, but not just what the picture was, she wanted me to read the encyclopedia entry about it. She was so darn smart. She was obsessed with turtles and the ocean. She wanted to be a Marine Biologist and help save endangered species. Her idol was Charles Darwin because he was daring to think outside the box and look closer at the world. She loved the color yellow because she said it was bright and was hopeful and warm

She loved to read and write too. And she was a straight A student ... did I say she was darn smart.

And one of the things I loved so much about her was how she was head strong and witty. She made you feel great even when you were arguing about stuff, it would end in laughter because out of nowhere she would make a pun or be sarcastic. She told an adult one time who pronounced our last name wrong by saying DuPree... she said "really, what word has a silent ST.. oh yeah Upid" Everyone laughed until we cried because she said it so seriously."



DuPriest in 5th grade

When asked what Jordan's mind set was through her battle, Mrs. DuPriest had this to say:

"She was very strong and positive for most of it. And she was inspiring. She was determined to find the silver