

EA 1996 Admin

From: EA 1996 Admin <ea1996admin@ea1996.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 4:06 PM
To: kaitwinter3@gmail.com
Cc: kwinter@lightoflife.org
Subject: EA 1996 Classmate in Need!

“Don’t feel like the prayers didn’t ‘work’. This is God’s path for me. I’m ready.”

Those are statements from a text conversation that I had with **Jessica Marsh (Dobos)** last week regarding the recent news that her biopsy confirmed the existence of cancer on her liver. During the conversation, Jess informed me of the findings and I followed up the way that most people do... *“Oh man, I’m really sorry, etc...”*. And Jess’s statements basically said *“If you want to waste your time being ‘sorry’, that’s your choice. But feeling bad will get me nowhere. I’m ready to win this.”*. I’m paraphrasing of course. But the sentiment of her statements actually served to reassure and comfort ME instead of my (admittedly inactive and fruitless) statement of sympathy comforting HER. While the rest of us are sitting around feeling down and wondering why God “didn’t answer our prayers”, Jess is smart enough to see that there’s a bigger picture and larger victory beyond one single battle. When she said *“I’m ready”*, she wasn’t referring to giving up or an acceptance of some alternate path that takes her away from her family. She specifically and unquestionably meant that she’s ready to crush this.

In the past year or two, I’ve had the privilege of getting to know Jessica better than I ever did when I saw her on a daily basis in school. She has a powerful faith and sense of confidence that would make anybody re-examine their outlook on life and their approach to problems. And I catch myself doing exactly that when I witness her inspiring approach to everything from parenting, to work, to helping others, to simple kindness, etc. One of the most amazing things that I’ve learned about her is that she never bothers to get bogged down by dwelling on things that didn’t go as she had hoped. She simply re-focuses and drives forward to the next check point. Her goals are well set, but the path that gets her those goals are irrelevant. It’s a very fluid and adaptive approach to life that I think we could all learn from. This is not the first challenge that she’s come across and this is not her first fight with cancer. But she seems to always come out on top because she leaves no room for any other possibility. She fights every fight with absolute purpose and direction. People usually don’t earn nicknames by accident. And Wonder Woman is a title not easily earned.

So when I asked Jess what I can do and how I might be able to help, she again expressed resolute control and focus... Instead of taking a passive approach and leaving people in the awkward position of wanting to help but not knowing when/how, she has a close friend already geared up to mount an organized effort to support Jess and her family as they do the heavy lifting that we can’t do for them. She’s leaving nothing to chance and no amount of energy will be spent on anything other than victory. If you want to help but aren’t sure how, we’ve got you covered...

How Can We Help?

Jessica’s friend, **Kait Winter**, is the primary point of contact for support offerings. Before you send food, offer to babysit, or do anything else, get ahold of Kait and figure out what Jess REALLY needs. Contact Kait today to get onboard at kaitwinter3@gmail.com.

What’s Next For Jessica?

There is a surgery scheduled for Monday to install a port device that will facilitate the administration of chemo. That will be followed by several days of recovery. Next Friday she’ll find out when they plan to schedule her liver surgery. That surgery will be followed by more chemo treatments. Stay tuned for more details as they come. Jess will be dealing with a lot of physical & emotional challenges. Your prayers and other efforts are definitely needed.

Thanks for your continued support!

#teamjessi

-[Dan Rullo](#)

