



ANDY'S STORY

Andy was born to our precious Lauren before she passed. He is a smart, sweet, precocious 7-year-old now. His Daddy, Drew, married a wonderful woman named Ashley, and Andy now has four loving siblings (Jackson, Grayson, Kellan and Halle) and a great Mommy.

Since birth Andy had some confusing and disturbing physical characteristics, such as easy bruising and hyper-flexibility. After extensive testing and months of hospital and doctor visits, Andy was diagnosed with Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, or vEDS in October of 2015.

vEDS is the most serious form of Ehlers Danlos Syndrome, and is incredibly rare. vEDS is a genetic disorder that affects the connective tissue, characterized by thin and translucent skin, easy bruising, spontaneous organ ruptures, and arterial, muscular, and intestinal fragility.

There is *no treatment* for vEDS. There is *no cure* for vEDS. Life expectancy is shortened with a majority of individuals living only into their forties, many only into their teens.

Realizing that Lauren had all the same physical characteristics of vEDS, our family agrees that Lauren most likely had the same cruel disorder, and it contributed to her passing. Unfortunately, like Lauren, most individuals don't find out that they have vEDS until it is too late. There needs to be much more clinical research to find treatments and eventually a cure. We are now incorporating a vEDS research charity into our tournament, along with college scholarships, to help find a cure. Please pray for our sweet and loving Andy and his family as they help him continue to grow up living with the unpredictability and complications of vEDS.

By: Steve & Carol Ovelgonne
The Lauren Ovelgonne-Tenney
Scholarship Fund & Golf Tournament