

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you to let you know about a Foundation that is very near and dear to my heart, The Rutledge Foundation. This organization is committed to caring and curing Young Adult cancers. They have a large presence in our great city of Fort Worth and are a wonderful resource for families, like mine, who have personally been affected by cancer.

You might be wondering who I am and why this Foundation is so special to me. My name is Galen Storey. On October 8th 2014, I was given news that completely flipped my world upside down; I was diagnosed with cancer. Just two weeks after my 21st birthday, I went into surgery to have a seemingly benign mass removed and woke up to be informed that, to everyone's surprise, it was cancer. Stage 3 Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma was my diagnosis. Soon after this devastating news I started my 40 weeks of chemo. Additionally, I received 5 and a half weeks of pelvic radiation therapy.

During radiation I was bedridden. The Rutledge's daughter Meredith, who lives in Houston, brought me a gift basket that had a huge blue and white blanket in it. We immediately threw it on my bed and I used it for the rest of my treatment. I still have it in my room now. This blanket provided me comfort during such a hard time and that is exactly what the Rutledge Foundation provides for AYA patients and families, comfort during the hardships as well as hope in the fact that someone is advocating for them.

Due to the extreme measures that were taken to rid my body of this aggressive cancer, I have most likely lost my fertility. Fortunately, however, when the Rutledge's caught wind of my diagnosis through mutual friends, Laura reached out to my mother to help in any way that she can. One of the first thing she talked to her about was going through fertility-saving treatment. Luckily my doctors gave me two extra weeks to save my eggs before I started with chemo treatments. Without Laura's help, we wouldn't have even had a discussion about my fertility. The Rutledge's know first-hand that our demographic of cancer patients has unique needs and they know how to cater to them more than anyone else I encountered through my battle . In the past five years, The Rutledge Foundation has raised over \$400,000 to research new ways to treat cancer and save lives as well as put on countless events to raise awareness for AYA's. They have done amazing things and I know they wish only to surpass that excellence in the coming years. However, they cannot do it alone. Less toxic treatments still need to be researched and ultimately cures need to be found. This cannot happen without support. Thank you for taking the time to read my story. I ask that you please consider supporting the Rutledge Foundation as they continue to support others fighting this battle as well as persevere to find the best treatment options for future cancer patients.

Sincerely,
Galen Storey

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Galen Storey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.