



## Eli Sidler

April 11, 1996 - June 24, 2012

Eli Alexander Sidler “Chemowarrior” Eli Sidler passed away on June 24th at the Hershey Medical Center from Ewing’s Sarcoma, a rare childhood cancer. As with every step of the journey, his parents were by his side when he took his last breath and passed peacefully. He was only 16 years old. Eli was born in Des Moines, IA on April 11, 1996. Diagnosed in 2004 when he was only eight, he fought hard for almost half his life, enduring over 60 rounds of chemotherapy, many radiation treatments and four surgeries to remove tumors from his spine. In March, disease progression left him paralyzed from the waist down. But despite all he went through, Eli almost never complained or asked “Why me?” He was our true Chemowarrior, a title bestowed on him by his father early in his treatment. Eli was an intelligent and loving boy, with a great sense of humor. He enjoyed playing video games, horror movies, The Lord of the Rings, and all types of swords and blades. His musical tastes ran the gamut from rap and Marilyn Mason through Frank Sinatra, the Beatles and Celtic music. He was honest, witty and irreverent, a realist to the end. Eli’s favorite place was the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, a location he got to visit seven times during his short life. He liked nothing better than rolling around in the surf and exploring the tide pools. He was planning to study marine biology had he been given the chance. His favorite food was cheese and he loved dining at Roburrito’s in York, El Rodeo, Passage to India and Friendly’s. Car picnics at Taco Bell and McDonald’s were a family tradition and he also enjoyed visiting the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire every summer. Most

recently a 10th grade student at Cedar Crest High School in Lebanon, Eli attended the Susquehanna Waldorf School from first through eighth grades. It was there that he attained a sense of self and inner strength that saw him through many tough times. Eli was also involved with THON, the Penn State student-run organization that raises money for The Four Diamonds Fund. In addition to cancer research, this Fund pays any uncovered medical expenses incurred by families whose children with cancer are being treated at the Hershey Medical Center. His THON sponsor organization was the Penn State Field Hockey Club and he found himself on the receiving end of the attentions of many young ladies, something he enjoyed quite a bit. In addition to his parents Bret and Susan Sidler of Cornwall, Eli is survived by his grandparents Robert and Irene Simko of Hershey, David and Darlene Eckert of Mount Gretna and Louis and Carmen Sidler of Palmyra; his great grandmother Helen Simko of Annville and many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. His family would like to thank the nurses and doctors at the Hershey Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York for the wonderful care he received. Eli's motto was "just live life," something he did until his body became too tired to fight any more. He was an amazing young man and he touched many people during his short life. His cremation was lovingly handled by Kreamer Funeral Home in Annville, PA. His family is planning an event to honor his life that will be held later this summer. Information will be posted on his CarePage website at [www.carepages.com/carepages/chemowarrior](http://www.carepages.com/carepages/chemowarrior). To remember Eli, donations in his name can be made to The Four Diamonds Fund, P.O. Box 852, Hershey, PA 17033 or Susquehanna Waldorf School, 15 W. Walnut Street, Marietta, PA 17547.

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# Tribute Wall

JO

“ *In memory of the awesome and cool Chemowarrior. Although we only met online you were quite an inspiration to me. May you be at peace now.*

John - February 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *Our deepest condolences. You are in our thoughts.*

David & Evawn McCoy - July 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ *Thank you for letting me love and pray for Eli, and now miss him and pray for his family. I knew him through the carepages.*

MiMi - July 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *Bret, Sue & all of your family and friends; I have been blessed to know Eli and strengthened by his bold stand against cancer and equally firm posture about living life. He lived life on his terms and along the way helped so many others to "live life" more openly, honestly, and with less fear. I am forever a better person because of him. Bret & Sue - You have my deepest condolences and know behind doubt that your love for Eli helped him in as many ways as he helped you. May your lives be filled with memories of Eli and his incredible journey; the Chemowarrior was one-of-a-kind. Namaste*

Dan Laub - July 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *I am so very sorry for your loss.*

Steve Pippin - July 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ My condolences go out to the Sidler Family. Crystal has always kept us up to date on Eli's condition. You are all in my thought and prayers!

Kim Morris - July 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LQ

“ Eli will be missed greatly by those that knew him from the Susquehanna Waldorf School Community.

Lynnea Quintana - July 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Our family is so sorry for your loss. We are a Four Diamonds Family and we attend Thon, I don't think we had the honor of meeting Eli and your family.

Marsha Bigler - June 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Men-In-Black - Eli and his dad rocked my stage at THON several times - brought down the house with cheers with their Variety Show performances. Eli will always be on my stage; in our hearts. There truly are Angels Among Us - FTK DJ Larry Moore

Larry Moore - June 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Bret and Susan Thankyou for letting me share your son Eli You are the most wonderful parents, when I sat with Eli He spoke of each of you with love and respect. Your family will be in my heart forever. Thankyou for letting Bayada into your home Beth Rothermel

Beth Rothermel - June 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *I share in your loss , and pray for Gods comfort to bless your family with peace , and may your sons memories keep you and sustain your love .*

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**Joan landis** - June 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM