

Payton's Story

Payton is 15 years old typical teen. He loves video games, hanging out with family, outdoors and now we can say he can truly enjoy sports the way a child should.

When Payton was an infant, we had always noticed something was off with the way he walked and stood. When we attend numerous doctors' appointments, we were always informed that that it was normal he would grow out of it. And up to doctors informing us they would have to break both his feet to correct this issue. His shoes would wear out in an odd fashion showing that his feet did in fact have issues.

In fourth grade Payton wanted to play football, basketball and even run track. These sports were physically demanding and of course lots of running. Payton tried but he couldn't handle the pain and the discomfort. When he did compete in such events, he had a hard time going on small walks (even a quick grocery store run was painful). And countless nights in tears with ice packs on his feet because he wanted to be ready for the next day.



Payton was thirteen years old when we were informed that Shriners could possibly help. Or at least get us to a doctor that specializes pediatric feet.

Thanks to not only Shriners hospital in Spokane WA. Shriners in Butte Mt and Tom Holman for being our sponsor.

Walking into the Shriners hospital seeing how safe secure the min you walked in. To welcoming staff. To amazing nurses and doctors. We knew we were definitely in the right place. Not only did they have us sit down talk about the process they wanted to do. They walked us hand in hand through the entire thing. One of the most amazing things to us was how his doctors not only talked to us but to Payton on his level and he fully understood the process. When the doctors stepped out of the room. Payton informed us he trusts this team and he likes the doctors. That something most kids don't say lol.

But not only did Shriners help my son walk, run and jump with no pain. They also help us out for lodging. That was an absolutely a financial burden lifted off our shoulders. They then topped it off with financial help for the travel as well.

Thanks to the amazing doctors at Shriners. They devised a plan that was non-surgical for Payton. As of now we keep up with the routine visits that are now yearly.

So as of date Payton is very active. He can enjoy his sports and is currently active in wrestling. Loves riding his bike. And now runs pain free!

As a parent we always want what's best for our kids. And we always try to make sure they have anything we can give them. And thanks to such an amazing program like Shriners we have been able to do that with Payton.

Thank you, Shriner's. Sincerely, The DeJohn family