



Mark and Shannon

Mommy's Light volunteers visited Jeanmarie (33) three weeks before she died of breast cancer. She was in a hospice bed that took up most of the space in the living room. Her husband, Mark, moved her into a wheelchair for the visit – "on the count of three" and Jeanmarie locked her arms around Mark's neck for the transfer. As soon as Jeanmarie was in her wheelchair, her children, Mark (7) and Shannon (5), were by her side – Mark on her right and Shannon on her left. Brienne (15 months) was asleep upstairs.

Mark and Shannon loved doing arts and crafts with their mom. They also loved using cookie cutters on pre-made sugar cookies.

A week later, Mommy's Light delivered paints, stencils, stamps, brushes, hand painted smocks and two flags for decorating to Mark and Shannon. Once again, Jeanmarie got out of her hospice bed and began experimenting with the paints, stencils and stamps – Mark on her right and Shannon on her left.



Steve and His Brothers

Steve's mom died on his 8th birthday. Steve's dad felt that it was a gift for Mom to have died on the youngest child's birthday as he would have fewer memories of her than his 14-year-old twin brothers. When Steve marked his future birthdays, it would be with a mixture of joy and sadness, but always with a memory of his Mom.

The brothers had fond memories of their mom taking them to the Springfield Mall on weekends that their dad worked. When Mommy's Light volunteers asked if they shopped separately, the boys laughed, "Mom never let us out of her sight." They remembered eating Auntie Anne's pretzels, buying clothes and sometimes eating at Ruby Tuesday's.

Mommy's Light put together a mall fun package to mail to the brothers. As the volunteer was assembling the mall brochure, gift certificates and a few treats wrapped in red and yellow tissue paper, she wondered if the boys would enjoy opening the package. In that moment, goosebumps flooded down her left side and she felt that the brothers' mom had just said, "They will love this!" And, the brothers certainly did.



THE HEART OF MOMMY'S LIGHT

START

FINISH

