ST. JUDE WALK/RUN

If you were to ask a group of people what their most precious treasures were, you might get a variety of answers. If you were to ask a group of St. Jude parents the same question, without a doubt, we’d answer our children, and what we desire most is the complete, total healing and good health of all of our children. There’s nothing like a life-threatening disease to put everything in its proper perspective!

Ashleigh Culivan (whose mom, Jane, has taught in Ascension Parish for 16 years), was diagnosed at 19 with DSRCT in 2012. Over the next 1 ½ year, she underwent a year of chemotherapy, followed by surgery, 7 weeks of radiation and a stem cell transplant. She remained clear of disease for 18 months before relapsing and passing away in early 2016.

Jane and Steve, Ashleigh’s parents, remain grateful for the care, treatment and time St. Jude gave them with Ashleigh. Steve and Jane have been St. Jude supporters and donors throughout their marriage, and Jane serves on the Baton Rouge committee for the St. Jude Walk that is held each September. This year’s walk is being held on September 28 (no LSU game) in downtown Baton Rouge. Last year, the Baton Rouge community raised over $500,000 for the St. Jude Walk, second only to Memphis. There are over 400 Louisiana children each year who are treated at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis or at one of the two St. Jude Affiliate Clinics in Louisiana – one in Baton Rouge, the other in Shreveport.

Team\_Ashleigh was established in 2012 by Ashleigh’s aunt. Jane and Steve continue to sponsor Team\_Ashleigh each year in memory of Ashleigh and to raise funds for St. Jude. It costs over $2 million a day to run St. Jude. About 75% of their budgeted costs are supported by public donations. No donation is too small…Every little bit helps.

New Team\_Ashleigh shirts were designed this year. *“Your wings were ready, but our hearts were not.*” Shirts are $15 each and orders are being collected through Heather Young. Please consider joining Krewe de Halcyon’s team or Team\_Ashleigh.