

## Jeffrey Sweeney - ADOLESCENT FMD

Hello, My name is Jamie Cribb and I am the very proud grandmother of Jeffrey D. Sweeney age 14. January 17th, 2010 our Jeffrey was outside sitting with friends when he became dizzy and started having a headache. Jeffrey told his friends that he was going home and when he started to get up his left side would not function, in an attempt to get up again he fell more to the left side and also dislocated his left shoulder. At the time his speech was slurred as well per his friends.



The friends ran in to tell his dad who right away picked him up and took him to the ER, the staff immediately placed him in immobilization thinking that he had hurt him self while on the trampoline. He was placed on a monitor, IV was started. He had ct scans and still no answer as to why a healthy young man had left side paralysis. He was taken by EMS to the Medical Center of Central Ga. Twenty six hours later, my daughter called to let me know that our Jeffrey had had a stroke. Still it is hard to imagine.

In the first week ,he started moving his left leg, but not his arm. He started rehab there and was then sent to Scottish Rite for further rehab. Today our precious boy can walk, but has a brace in his shoe because his ankle only has minor use and he can only move his great toe and that is with a lot of work, as to his left arm he can move it some. Can not pick up anything with his arm.

This summer he started back to school and is playing ball again with a team through the board of education. This team is called the "Sharks" and is only for children with physical disabilities and they all play in wheel chairs.

Jeffrey tells us that his life has changed and he has to change with it. This young man has shown us a lot of strength and courage. He has worked hard to get to this point and we are so very proud of him. When I look at my precious grandson, I see a new young man, but still a child with hopes and dreams. His neurologist has given him permissin to obtain his learners permit this month as he will be fifteen. He told me, "you know grandma when you come over to get me, I will drive you home. Makes me a little nervous, but if he has the courage, so do I.

This is but a small story of our Jeffrey, this is not all he went through. It was hard for him and he has walked a very hard road and learned a hard lesson about life, but we are so thankful to God that he has allowed us to keep Jeffrey. Now we pray that his life will be full of happiness and no more strokes. What a wonderful young man he is. May God continue to bless him and others who are dealing with FMD.

Today I try myself to teach people about FMD. Being a nurse this is something myself that I have never seen before and read all I can. I hope more will become aware of this and help to find a cure.

Many Thanks for reading the story about our Jeffrey.

**Jamie Cribb**

Very Proud grandmother