



Sydney

Rhabdomyosarcoma

Just after her 2nd birthday, Sydney's family received an unwelcome surprise. Her mother discovered a dime-size lump in Sydney's mouth. By the time she was diagnosed with stage 4 rhabdomyosarcoma just eight days later, the cancer had spread to her lungs.

Aggressive treatment began immediately and today, Sydney is active, strong-willed and cancer-free. Despite beating some staggering odds, she carries the scars of a hard-fought battle. Nerve damage, vision impairment and a speech articulation disorder are enduring reminders of Sydney's strength and courage — the characteristics that make her a hero in the eyes of her mom and many others.

Despite her early health struggles, Sydney is compassionate, happy and loving. "She is my little hero," Sydney's mom says. "In many ways I look up to her."