

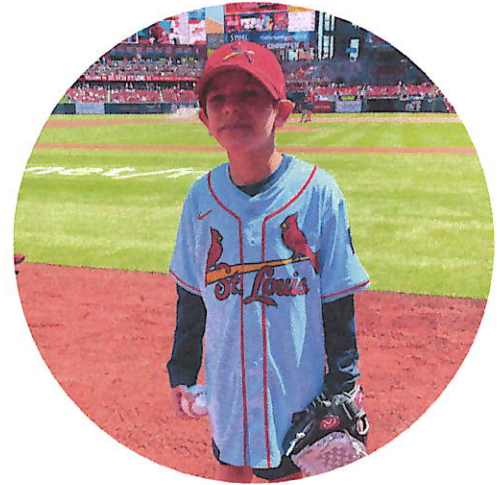
Meet Wish Kid Zachary

Zachary, an 8-year-old from St. Charles, MO, loves spending time with his parents and his two brothers. Behind his fun and energetic spirit is a warrior who has overcome more in his 8 years on earth than most do in a lifetime.

Zachary was born with five congenital heart defects. His first surgery was when he was just 10 days old. In the space of 9 months, he had five open heart surgeries.

On October 6, 2016, at the young age of 9 months old, Zachary received the greatest gift of all, **a heart transplant**. Zachary's older brother, Max, named Zachary's new heart **Zippy the Hero** because he was going to zip inside of Zachary and save the day. Since then, every October 6th, Zachary's family has honored his donor and celebrated Zippy Day.

This year's Zippy Day was extra special as the family celebrated during Zachary's wish trip to Hawaii!



I wish to go to Hawaii
Zachary, 8
heart transplant

MEDICAL IMPACT OF A WISH



98%

of medical providers said they have observed that the wish experience helps relieve families from traumatic stress related to their child's critical illness.



91%

of wish kid alumni said their wish improved their well-being.

**Wish Impact Study Findings (2021)*



95%

of wish parent alumni believe the wish experience gave their child a better chance at surviving their critical illness.

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

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