

The Dream Journal

June 2024

CELEBRATING YOU AND THE DREAMS YOU MAKE POSSIBLE!

Anthony dreamed of making forever memories with his family.

Image courtesy
of Martial Keyzer
Photography



Thank you for Anthony's Dream family vacation!

When treatment for his cancer failed, you helped provide devoted dad and grandpa Anthony with a Dream family vacation for 15 family members by the ocean.

So many Dreams you make possible give families one last chance to spend precious time together somewhere magical.

That's how it was for Anthony. He's such a family man that his wife, Alisa, who first wrote to us, introduced him as "my sweet husband, daddy of four, and grandpa of six."

Anthony loved being a father, and when his grandchildren came along, he loved being a grandfather, too. Having watched his own children grow up, he was looking forward to being there for his grandchildren throughout their lives.

Then, he was diagnosed with a cancerous tumor in his leg in 2022.

Anthony was determined to make a full recovery for his family. But after having his lower leg removed, he was given the devastating news that the cancer spread to his lungs and bones.

"There is no medical cure for this cancer in adults," says Alisa.

Anthony wanted to treasure the time he had left with the people he loved the most. He dreamed of taking them to a beach town in California.

What he really wanted was to see the people he loved most relax near the water, laugh, and take a million photos, creating lasting memories that would leave them with a happy ending.

Anthony's Dream wouldn't have been possible without your loving support.



The whole family loved staying so close to the ocean.



You gave Anthony the chance to share family fun with his grandchildren at Santa Barbara Zoo.

Longtime supporters Tiffany and Frank Foster again donated their ocean-side accommodation big enough to accommodate 15 family members.

<u>Santa Barbara Zoo</u> welcomed the family with open arms, providing a special giraffe feeding and goat brushing experience. The <u>Santa Barbara Golf Club</u> invited them to play a round on its stunning course.

And <u>Martial Keyzer Photography</u> generously donated a special photo shoot to capture precious moments.

Alica says, "The best family memories were made. Absolutely perfect! We couldn't have had a better experience."

"I'm thankful for the once-in-alifetime opportunity that brought our entire family together to make forever memories." —Anthony

U.S. Navy veteran Paulette's last hurrah was a Dream come true

Paulette enlisted in the U.S. Navy straight out of high school.

Serving her country as a hospital corpsman and caring for her fellow service members "meant the world" to her.

Following her honorable discharge, she settled in California to raise her daughter. Life was good until she was diagnosed with a rare terminal brain disease.

Wanting to make the most of the time she had left, she dreamed of visiting Maui with her daughter and two sisters.

Because of your compassionate support, we were able to provide Paulette with a trip to Maui.



Paulette and her family soaked up the magic of the island.

Alaska Airlines and Turo helped with transportation. <u>Old Lahaina Lu'au</u> helped with tickets to a luau, and <u>Trilogy Excursions</u> helped with tickets for a sailing excursion.

This was not just a vacation, but a moment of joy and respite for Paulette and her family.

Paulette says, "The boat ride was the best. I told the captain it was my last hurrah, and he said they'd make it a great one."

The family saw dolphins up close, which Paulette says was "really special."

Their whole time on the island was magical. "One day, we traveled to the north shore and saw turtles," says Paulette. "The protected areas were so beautiful."

Without you, Paulette's Dream wouldn't have been possible. "Thank you for everything," she says.



Thank you for supporting Dreams for Veterans.

See more Here

Welcome to your June Dream Journal!



If you've ever wondered if your support makes a difference, I hope you'll be as moved as I was when I saw the photos of Anthony's family vacation and U.S. Navy veteran Paulette's trip to the island of her Dreams.

When I look at photos of Dreams, I think about everyone they touch—the difficult journey that family and friends are on as they lose someone they love, and what it must feel like to know that there are compassionate people like you in the world.

Dreams come in many forms, and they touch people in many ways. Some we can see immediately, like the smile on a grown-up daughter's face as she leans into her mother on a Dream trip to the beach.

Some we can only imagine and hope for Like, whatever they face on their journeys ahead, the young children of Dream families will grow up knowing what a difference we can make when we care for each other.

Thank you for being part of this loving community.

With appreciation, Kisa Heyer, CEO, Dream Foundation

You can help make end-of-life Dreams come true with a gift of \$25.



Denice dreams of attending her granddaughter's wedding!

We recently received a letter from Denice, who lives in West Colorado, asking for help to attend a special family event in Michigan.

Denice writes, "My granddaughter Ashley will be getting married in September, and it would mean so much to me to share in her special day."

Denice has been living with multiple sclerosis for many years and has now been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Being able to see family would mean so much to Denice. She says, "This wedding might be one of the last chances I have to get together with the family who lives far from me."

Life has been hard for Denice. She says, "My son and one of my best friends died this past year. It has been a long and sad winter, that is for sure, and I have been having trouble finding things that bring me joy."

Your compassionate support gives people like Denice something to look forward to when their future feels so bleak. Thank you for helping make Dreams come true. As Denice says, "I appreciate you for the help you offer people in situations like mine."



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS & MAILING ADDRESS | 1528 CHAPALA STREET, SUITE 304, SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101