



The Rowley Family

## **Battling: 14-year-old, Mason**

This past spring Mason started complaining of headaches. Mason's mother, Nicolle, knew Mason would not complain if they were minor as she was battling Colorectoral Cancer and had just endured two major surgeries. Although ill from chemo, Nicolle knew something was wrong with her straight-A student.

On Monday June 1st, she took him to the ER for a migraine headache. He was immediately admitted to the hospital. Within 24 hours, Mason quit breathing on his own. Shortly after, his tumor hemorrhaged and he suffered a stroke. Mason was diagnosed with Glioblastoma. He was taken into surgery immediately where his brain suffered much trauma.

Mason has since regained his speech and is currently in a wheelchair but relearning how to walk. With little hope and very few options for treatment in AZ, the Rowleys were grateful to be able to transfer his care to MD Anderson and specifically Dr. Zaky. It has been an emotional and financial burden but they knew Mason needed the specialized care. Dad, Jesse, works as much as he can but the time needed to care for Mason has been great, putting additional financial stress on the family.

In Sept., an MRI revealed new growth. Mason had a second surgery and just started a new chemotherapy. They are hopeful it will be effective. Mason turned 14 while in the hospital and has a 10-year-old sister, Madisen, who he shares a close bond with.

This year we join together to help this family have a wonderful Christmas!

Angel Tree Mission 2015