



The Bustos Family

## Battling: 17-year-old, Monica

On hospice, but NOT giving up!! Monica is a delightful seventeen-year-old who maintains her strength and humor in the face on and end stage, recurrent Metastatic Osteosarcoma, an aggressive cancer of the bone.

She was initially diagnosed at the age of twelve with multiple tumors throughout her body, had a bone removed from her lower leg with complications of permanent nerve damage, followed by ten months of chemotherapy to achieve a cancer free status. However, the freedom from cancer was short lived, and the cancer was back with a vengeance with fifteen months. The

struggle continued with lung surgery, six months of chemo and one year of inhaled treatments. But towards the end of that year another tumor developed and required surgical removal of the upper lobe of the right lung.

These past few years have been understandably stressful on the whole family, including her mom, step-dad, and younger brother. Monica is at home on hospice at this time, but all hope is not lost, she may still be able to participate in an experimental study.

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