

I wish to have a room redo!



Ruby, 8
Degenerative Nerve Disease

Ruby is an 8 year old girl in St. Louis, Missouri currently living with a degenerative nerve disease. Ruby was a perfectly healthy child meeting all developmental goals until the age of 6. Over the course of the next 2 years, her vision deteriorated to 20/500 (legally blind). Also during this time, her fine and gross motor skills declined, resulting in a significant loss of hand function, decreased arm strength and muscle tone. She has undergone all known tests with no definitive diagnosis as of yet. Her current diagnosis is optic neuropathy due to an unknown cause, and Axonal Nerve Degeneration, currently manifesting itself in her upper extremities. Ruby is currently waiting on results from an exome sequencing test to determine if there is the possibility of a definitive diagnosis, and the possibility of inherited genes.

Ruby is an extrovert. She enjoys making friends and being around people (one of her favorite things to do is “chit chat”). She is a lightning rod of happiness, and has been since she was very young. She has a big heart, a kind, sensitive spirit and is very quick to love. She likes to listen to music and dance/sing a long (Kids Bop), play outside, go to the pool in the summertime, help out in the kitchen, and use her big imagination. Currently she is in swimming and music lessons once a week. She loves kittens, bunnies, stuffed animals (Build A Bears and Beanie Boos top the list), chicken strips and pizza!

When asked if they had a specific quote that explains their daughter’s journey, Ruby’s parents said, *“Ruby is a truly special child. She has kept an unbelievably positive attitude during the last two years. Loss of vision, decreasing motor function, all the doctor visits, blood draws, MRI’s, hospital stays, and therapy sessions should take its toll on a person of any age. As difficult as it is to be in this situation with so many unknowns, on more than one occasion, Ruby has told us not to worry. We try our best to heed her advice! We have yet to tell her she has been approved for a Make-A-Wish® Miracle, only because we know she will be super pumped and ask us daily about it.”*

We appreciate you partnering with Make-A-Wish® to help support Ruby’s wish and wish kids like her by granting them their one true wish.

We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to
enrich the human experience with HOPE, STRENGTH AND JOY.

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