

## September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

### “Fluttering “

by Michelle Anderson

The pediatric cancer organization that I support and am involved with is called **Unravel**. Their website is [www.unravelpediatriccancer.org](http://www.unravelpediatriccancer.org) . It is based out of Livermore, Ca and was started by Libby Kranz, a mom whose daughter Jennifer was just 6 when she was diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor called DIPG. Jennifer died 3.5 months after diagnosis.

Although this group is based out of Livermore, it has Sacramento ties, too, with several of Libby's friends living in the area. Their big fundraiser is called Mama's Night Out and I had the pleasure of attending it this past May in Sacramento. My Samuel was one of the children featured that evening in a remembrance slide show. I (along with several other grieving moms) was presented with a special necklace with our Samuel's first initial. The evening raised over \$60,000 and all money went to Dr. Lisa Roth at Weill Cornell University and her research towards Burkitt's Lymphoma.

In September, this group does something special for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month called "Fluttering." This involves moving 12 dragonflies on lawn stakes from one person's yard to the next throughout the month. Each person who is fluttered gets to enjoy these beautiful, colorful dragonflies for the day. If they want to make a donation, they get to choose who gets fluttered next, all the while raising awareness in their communities about September being Childhood Cancer Awareness month.

Unravel's mission is to spread awareness about the lack of funding for pediatric cancer research. Unravel is an organization I trust and I know money donated is going to a good cause.

Michelle Anderson's son, Samuel, died on December 8, 2015, at the age of 12. He suffered from glioblastoma brain cancer.

