

Truckers Parade Against Cancer
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I started writing this letter in the spring, trying to get motivation to approach the team to start planning the 21st Truckers' Parade, with diesel fuel, at the time, being at an all-time high. Having to search deep down to find that motivation, I decided to look back. I realize that the 20th parade should have been a time of reflection, being such a huge anniversary. The team, as a whole, tried to make it a great time. Money wise, you truckers came out with the best totals we have seen so far, but the love and comradery was lacking. No fault of any one person, but a combination of COVID-19 rules and restrictions, which made us change our whole way of doing things, and all of the death that the team had experienced over the last two years. It was difficult to put a smile on and be happy with all that we had been through. The team was suffering and so were a lot of the truckers as well. While reflecting, I looked back at many years of photos and newspaper clippings from over the last 20 years. It was a sad trip back, looking at photos of so many that were a part of TPAC that are no longer with us; people who had been there since the beginning of the journey to help find a cure. As sad as all those photos made me, it helped me understand that because of the truckers' parade, we all were able to spend time together. Whether it was the day of the parade or the preparations for it, that is time that we were able to laugh and cry together. I saw pictures of survivors with their families being supportive by their sides, pictures of drivers' families, and memories being made. Some of the people in the photos are kids that have grown up and married and now having kids of their own. This is when I realized that the Trucker's Parade has touched generations of families. People in the photos that are no longer with us, and we mourn, but we were able to spend time the day of the parade with them and make our memories. Some of our families that have participated in the parade, would never have a family photo to look back on, if not for the parade. The survivors would not understand that we are all in their fight together without the parade. Some diagnosis of cancer would not have been found, without the parade. Research dollars would not have been collected to help find a cure without the parade. Who needs more motivation than that to carry on such a huge, important event?

This year we are going back to the basics, and we hope to see you on October 8th at Central Middle School, in Charlotte Court House, VA. Forms need to be sent in by September 23rd, if possible. The fee is \$250.00 per banner, and more than one banner can be carried on a truck. This is an option to save on fuel. Checks should be made payable to the American Cancer Society. Let's start making some new and happy memories, while raising money for a cure. We hope to see you come out in a big way. It has been tough on everyone this year, but no tougher than hearing the words, "You have cancer." We need to make those words obsolete. Talk it up and tell your friends to come join the fun!

www.truckersparade.com

Facebook page- Trucker's Parade Against Cancer-Charlotte C.H., VA

Trucking for A Cure

