



Captain Jonathan Jesse Davison, Hero Helper Dalmatian

Named in Honor of three men who always answer the call to help, quietly, all in different ways. a Fireman, a Voice, a Helping Hand.

Birthday: January 27.

Dalmatians are talented, sporting dogs. They have excellent memories and a very interesting coat. They're built for efficiency and great endurance, running for miles, tireless enthusiasm. They ward off stray dogs and keep horses calm and safe. Dalmatians love to run and roam. They are playful and helpful, an eager companion.

"When I was very young, most of my ... childhood heroes wore capes, flew through the air, or picked up buildings with one arm. They were spectacular and got a lot of attention. But as I grew, my heroes changed, so that now I can honestly say that anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me." Fred Rogers

"When I was a boy and would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' To this day, especially in times of 'disaster,' I remember my mother's words, and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers – so many caring people in this world." Fred Rogers

Retired

"EVERY CHILD DESERVES A CHANCE TO PLAY BASEBALL"

June 10, 2016



B. L. Zelly, a Playful Playground Duck

Named in Honor of two friends who work very carefully to make the garden beautiful.

Ducks have webbed feet that act like paddles. They waddle instead of walks. They are found in wetlands, marshes, ponds, rivers, lakes and ocean. Some ducks like playgrounds.

"If you could only sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to the people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person." Fred Rogers

"She taught them to walk in a line, to come when they were called, and to keep a safe distance from bikes and scooters and other things with wheels. When at last she felt perfectly satisfied with them, she said one morning: 'Come along, children, Follow me.' Before you could wink an eyelash, Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Ouack, Pack, and Quack fell into line, just as they had been taught. Mrs. Mallard led the way into the water and they swam behind her to the opposite bank." Robert McCloskey, Make Way For Ducklings



Scotty, a Bright and Shining Wildcat

Named in Honor of a friend, Scott Thomas who quietly inspires those around him to do their best everyday with care and a smile. A bright, shining, incredible, remarkable soul.

Wildcats are fascinating and capable of great affection and happiness. They possess great dignity strong will. Their reactions and instincts are very sharp. They are committed to doing their best, even when it's very difficult.

"Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else."

*"When you wish upon a star
Makes no difference who you are
Anything your heart desires
Will come to you
If your heart is in your dream
No request is too extreme
When you wish upon a star
Like dreamers do
When you wish upon a star
Your dreams come true"
Ned Washington*

Retired

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Kim, A Graceful Gazelle, Team Leader

Named in Honor of a Friend who watches over all children, keeping them safe and happy. She jumps gracefully for joy.

Gazelles are swift, graceful, nimble, beautiful, gregarious, and social.

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" Fred Rogers

*The sun will always, shine where you stand
Depending in which land
You may find yourself
Now you have my blessing, go your way
Happiness runs in a circular motion
Thought is like a little boat upon the sea
Everybody is a part of everything anyway
You can have everything if you let yourself be
Donovan*

Retired

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Gail, a Chipper Chipmunk, Team Protector

Named in Honor of two women, both loving & kind Mothers, and Good Friends. These women always had time to teach others how to do many things. And they never forget the importance of play.

Chipmunks are lively, speedy scamperers, with big, pudgy cheeks.

"It's the children who have already grown to feel that life is worth living and that people are worth loving, who are the ones most likely to grow up rejoicing in life and regarding this planet with loving care. You rarely have time for everything you want in this life, so you need to make choices. And hopefully your choices can come from a deep sense of who you are." Fred Rogers

"Children grow in all sorts of remarkable ways between the ages of three and six. What an exciting and important time in all areas of their lives! Day by day, they're able to do more and more things. They have better use of their hands and feet so they naturally are better able to manipulate things like crayons and blocks, as well as run, skip, and ride toys with pedals. All that growing feels so good." Fred Rogers

Retired

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Cameron, Collie, a Watchful Friend

Never leaves your side. Will Play with you or be pillow. You can tell him all your secrets and he will keep them forever.

Collies: Very active, agile, working, herding, stamina, strength, speed and grace. Sensitive, intelligent, willing to please. Collies are very loyal and protective.

*"There is a time for some things,
And a time for all things!
A time for great things
And a time for small things."
Cervantes*

*"But I have promises to keep,
And Miles to go before I sleep."
Robert Frost*



Amie Margaret Irene, A Playful Friend

Named in Honor of New & Old Friends made at MLP. Amie is French for Friend

Birthday: April 29. Amie shares a birthday with the Miracle League of Plymouth. MLP's Groundbreaking Ceremony took place on April 29, 2011

Otters know how to have fun. They are energetic, extremely social animals, playing with each other in the water or on shore. They love slippery slopes and muddy hills. They glide on their bellies with their front paws by their sides. They are also independent, curious, and like to explore on their own.

Happiness is making a friend. Happiness is playing with a friend. Happiness is keeping a friend for a long, long time ... forever and ever.

"Children grow in all sorts of remarkable ways between the ages of three and six. What an exciting and important time in all areas of their lives! Day by day, they're able to do more and more things. They have better use of their hands and feet so they naturally are better able to manipulate things like crayons and blocks, as well as run, skip, and ride toys with pedals. All that growing feels so good." Fred Rogers

"Old friends sat on their ... bench like bookends ... Old friends, winter companions, ... waiting for the sun The sounds ... sifting through trees. Settles like dust on the shoulders of the old friends. Can you imagine us years from today,



Jeff Cardinal, Radio Bird

Named in Honor of Jeff Cardinal

"Jeffrey Cardinal loved his adopted hometown of Plymouth. He was always active in school events, sports and with his many friends. He was injured when he was 16 and became a paraplegic. He did not let this handicap become a barrier to the things he wanted to do. He finished high school at Plymouth HS, even though he had to be carried up and down the stairs. He could not continue with his beloved football, but was the Manager of the Track Team. After high school, he went to Michigan State University and Wayne State University for his BA and MA degrees. He worked at WSDP radio for 10 years and at other stations as well. He became a writer and wrote a book of short stories and was working on a novel. He was a life-long sports fan and a staunch MSU fan. We thought he bled green! He would say to all athletes, do your best and have fun!" (Liz Cardinal)

Jeff was a Sagar Wall of Courage Honoree

Special Thanks to **The GCYBSA Canton Cardinals** Travel Baseball Team, for sharing their time and treasures with MLP. They have designated MLP as a recipient of a portion of the proceeds from their 2013 Charity Golf Outing, in addition to being buddies to our MLP Players.

Mascots 2013

... just for you

Miracle League of Plymouth ... The Bilkie Family Field @ 357 Theodore
www.miracleleagueplymouth.org ... info@miracleleagueplymouth.org
All Mascots wear MLP Sweater or Scarf



Dave & Steve, Real Tiger Brothers

Named in Honor of Dave Bergman & his Brother, Steve

Dave Bergman was a Major League Baseball Player for 19 years: 1974-1978 Yankees, 1978-1980 Houston, 1981-1984 San Francisco, 1984-2002 Detroit Tigers.

"I have been blessed with a special needs brother. My older brother, Steve, taught me so much about life without being able to speak."

"The Miracle League of Plymouth has provided so many special needs children (and young adults) the opportunity to play in front of a crowd and to hear the cheers that have excited all of us who played the game."

Retired

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Jingles, a Player's Best Puppy Friend

Named in Honor of Sandra Sagar and her dog, Jingles.

Jingles was Sandra Sagar's little dog.

Sandra Sagar certainly knew what it meant to struggle and overcome obstacles; but Sandy's family and friends remember her attitude, not her struggles. Sandy said, "Can't never did anything. Can did it all." She believed it and she lived it.

Sandy was born on March 22, 1950. She contracted polio at the age of seventeen months. Polio created limitations for her body, but Sandy's spirit and character created a hopeful and courageous life. It's hard to imagine the strength and tenacity required of a young girl who faced so many operations and extended hospital stays. It's not hard to imagine that Sandy must have felt frustrated or lonely at times; but she chose not to let people see that. She didn't ask for help when others thought she should; instead she chose to help others. She chose to push ahead, even when others wanted her to rest.

At the age of four, she was a March of Dimes Poster Girl. At 16, she was spokesperson for Plymouth Community Fund, (now known as United Way). She loved music; and like most teenagers, she loved the Beatles. While most teenagers watched the Beatles on Ed Sullivan, Sandy was on Olympia's stage with the Beatles... in a full body cast, no less.

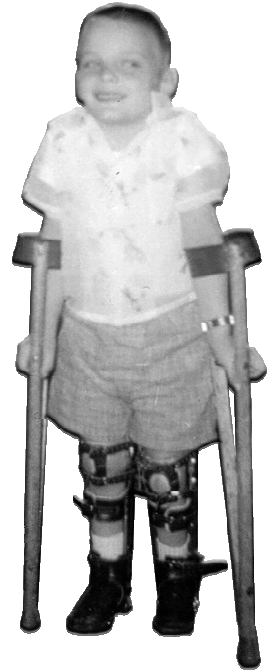
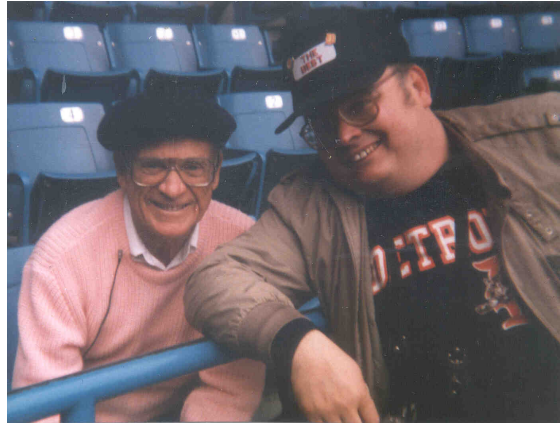
Sandy's early education was completed at home with special tutoring. In 1965, she was able to attend East Middle School in Plymouth. In 1966 she went on to attend Plymouth High School, now Central Middle School. Once again, she displayed a creative tenacity in how she navigated a building without an elevator and a bus without a lift, wearing braces, using crutches, and carrying all her belongings.

Sandy graduated in 1969. After graduation, she worked as an office manager and became a computer whiz. She was known as an excellent student, valued employee, and a great friend.

More importantly, she was a loving and much-loved daughter, sister, and aunt. Sandy passed away on April 2, 1992, due to complications of pneumonia. She was 42 years old.

Sandy demonstrated perseverance and courage throughout her life. It is dedicated to all of the students in our community that have shown the same kind of strength when faced with adversity.

The Sandra Sagar Wall of Courage, located at Plymouth High School was built to honor Sandra and others who overcame adversity to achieve their education and for their commitment to helping others. 63 Scholarships have been given out in Sandra's name.



J.T., Every One Deserves A Buddy Bear Named in Honor of Jerry Trumpka

Jerry Trumpka was always the first to notice when someone needed a helping hand, and then found a way to offer assistance.. He was the first to say, "Yes" to a request for help from friends and strangers. He believed it was important to do something. He identified obstacles and then came up with plans on how to get around them. Appreciative of the he received as a young boy. Jerry returned that kindness to many people throughout his lifetime. Printed on the back of Jerry's business cards, "*It is amazing how much you can accomplish when it doesn't matter who gets the credit.*" His leadership and spirit enriched the lives of everyone around him.

Jerry contracted polio before the age of 1. Jerry's dream was to eradicate polio so that no child would have to fight this disease

Jerry loved baseball and, at one time, was a radio announcer.

"I contracted polio in 1951, when I was nine months old -- three years before the Salk vaccine." Trumpka said. "At the worst point, I was in steel braces up to my neck. It got down to where I just had to wear one leg brace, when I was 10 or 11, after several surgeries." So I have never known how it is to walk without leg braces. My early years were difficult for me, but I made it through them and have managed to lead a productive life. ... a world free of polio, a gift of love to children of all time." (Jerry Trumpka)

Jerry was a Community Activist, a Rotarian, the Co-Chairperson of the Sandra Sagear Wall of Courage and Sagear Scholarship Committee, which honors students and former students who have made outstanding contributions to the community despite dealing with obstacles in their lives. Jerry was uniquely qualified to understand the kind of courage, tenacity and optimism it takes to overcome the challenge of a physical disability.

"There will always be children who need a helping hand so that they go on to make our world a little better place. Sandra Sagear. was born in 1950 and contract polio at the age of 17 months. Again, the polio vaccine arrived too late! Polio created limitations for Sandy's body but her spirit and character created a hopeful and courageous life. She faced many operations and extended hospital stays. She must have felt frustrated and lonely at times, but she chose not to let people see that. She chose to push ahead and help others." (Jerry Trumpka)



D.R., Champion Cat Coach

Named in Honor of Dale Rumberger

Dale grew up in Plymouth, married his high school sweetheart. Father. Grandfather.

Salem High School Baseball Coach. Became a member of MHSBCA Coaches Hall of Fame, Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association. Only persons who have coached Baseball as an Assistant or Head Coach at a 9th – 12th grade Secondary School for at least 20 years, or coached 250 varsity victories as a head coach or actively coached in Michigan for a minimum of 10 years are eligible.

Dale contracted polio as a youngster, spent a year in an iron lung. He loves baseball, his hometown, and will do anything to make a better world for children.

Retired

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