



#### Mission Statement

Our Mission is to bring light in a time of sorrow. To provide a bear as a reminder of your little angel and that you are not alone, but accompanied by the thoughts and prayers of everyone who has shared in this emotion.

PO Box 212, Jenison, MI 49429 P.616.481.3727 [www.briannaleefoundation.org](http://www.briannaleefoundation.org)

Member of the Jenison - Grandville Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Non Profit, 501-c-3 federal non profit.

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## GARRETT'S STORY BY GREG AND SABRINA VASHER

This story is going to be from my perspective because Sabrina still cannot get through it emotionally.

Sabrina and I were both in the Air Force. She had been stationed in England, and I was in Germany. She was transferred in May of 1995 to Germany after her base in England was closed. We were in the same squadron. It took me three months, but I finally got her to go out with me!

Five months into our relationship, January of 1996, I had to make a choice as to whether to try and stay in Germany or be transferred elsewhere that November. From day one we both accepted that there was probably going to be an end date for us, the military can be tough on relationships. At that point the plan was for me to leave. I received my new orders in August of 1996. I was being sent to California. This was a tough moment!! After being together for a year now neither of us wanted that end date to come. I began my out-processing. Two days later Sabrina asked me to meet her in the parking lot where she handed me a white stick with a glowing plus sign. I found myself sitting on the ground with my orders in my left hand and the stick in my right, staring at both! I looked up at the most beautiful girl in the world and said, "So, are we getting married or what?" This wasn't my most romantic moment ever, and not at all how I had envisioned the way I would propose one day. Fortunately, she still said yes!!! Getting married was the only way we could change my orders. We had to do it fast and pray! There were no guarantees because of how close we were to November. It worked out though.

At 18 weeks we went to find out the sex of the baby. It was a boy who we named Garrett. However, the doctor immediately knew there was a problem, the amniotic fluid was way too low. After more exams and specialists, we found out that Garrett had a problem with both kidneys. They were covered in cysts. After 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> opinions we were told, "So sorry, but you will not be taking a live baby home from this pregnancy." We were devastated. At 21 weeks he was still born. Worse day of our lives. I looked at him. I was looking at a baby, our baby. I held my wife's hand and said, "you need to look at him." She said she couldn't. I begged her again, but she couldn't. She was so devastated she couldn't and all she could do was cry. She regrets that so much. Whenever she brings it up, I tell her it's ok, he understands. We were only at the hospital for maybe 6 hours. They discharged us and we went home alone empty handed to our empty apartment and just cried. We didn't know how it was supposed to work. We didn't even have a funeral; he was just taken away and he was gone. We didn't even know what questions to ask. This haunts us.

After people lose a child at any point during a pregnancy or at any age it can send a person in one of two directions. They become closer to God, or they question and resent him. I was the latter. I asked God why, and I got no answers. Sabrina cried every single day for 6 months and all I could do was hold her. I was so angry at God! They say that God always has a plan even if it may not feel like it sometimes. I couldn't see it then, but many years later I did. God's plan was for Sabrina and I to be together not apart, and Garrett made that happen. We live just outside of Savannah, GA. We have two unbelievable children; Connor is 25 and a middle school teacher near us. Mia is 22 and is at Georgia Tech in their mechanical engineering program. We had always only discussed having two children. God took Garrett from us, had he not we probably would not have had Mia, and I cannot imagine this life without my daughter. I'm still totally in love with Sabrina, and on most days she's still in love with me too. Next month we will be married 29 years!!! She is still my best friend.

That's our story. Thank you, God.

All of us at the Brianna Lee Foundation, wish to Thank You for your continued support! Whether it's supporting us through the golf outing, sending in donations throughout the year, or even your continued prayers, for the families that have or had to go through this tragedy.

Your support allows us the ability to supply teddy bears to moms and dads that have a stillbirth. Your support even allows stories from past losses to be heard. Even stories 29 years later, such as the case with Garrett's story. No child is ever forgotten. Nor does the pain ever go away. However, with your support, together, we can support ALL families in this painful journey.

Thank You and God bless you!

2025 Golf Outing is in the books!

What a fantastic golf outing we had this year! I know I say this every year but each year they seem to get better and better! This year the golf outing was on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The weather was amazing! In the low 80's (in September)!

The sponsors were amazing! Our tournament sponsors were:

Palermo Pizza and Honor Credit Union

Our practice range sponsor was:

Dr Acton of Acton Family Chiropractic

Our Hole sponsors were:

Kyle Vander Kooy from Farmers Insurance

Musashi

Zeeland Farm Services

In memory of Brianna Lee from Mommy, Daddy, Peyton and Caleb

In memory of Georgia Evalyn Wildey by Nana and Papa

Larry Eischer Family

Greg Vasher from Valiant Wealth Management

John Sr and Louise Findley

Levi Haight from Valiant wealth Management

Hometown Boys Larry Wunsch and Jim Richey

In memory of Brianna Lee from Grandma and Papa Miller



And of Course, our cart sponsors:

Kristi and Eric Jensen

In memory of Brianna Lee – Grandma and Papa Renkema

In loving memory of Georgia Evalyn Wildey – Evan and Stephanie Wildey

Tom and Cheryl Butcher

Meade Zolman Family Dentistry

In loving memory of Georgia Evalyn Wildey – Aunt Kay and Aunt Karen

Grand River Bank

Jennifer and Aaron Peterson

Thank you to our Silent Auction donors!

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Tommy and Denise Giardina, in memory of their grandson Enzo Znak and in honor of his parents, Jessica Giardina and Bogdan Znak

Jim and Kathy Lipovsky, in memory of their Granddaughter, Lydia Williamson and in honor of Lydia's parents, Phyllis and Tim Williamson.

Thank You for Your Donations!

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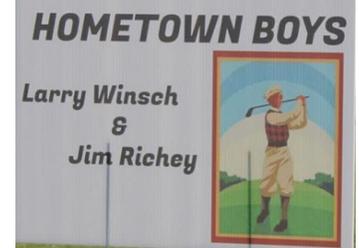


Thank you for your donation to the Brianna Lee Foundation.

Because of donations like yours, we can help hospitals in the states of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Colorado, Texas, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maine, California, Iowa, Massachusetts, Alabama, and Wisconsin! All this amazing growth is because of your support!

There are 26,000 stillbirths a year or one every 20 minutes. Because of your support we will be able to continue to grow and partner with more hospitals, thus touching more moms/families that experience a stillbirth, letting them know they are not alone in this tragedy but that they are in the thoughts and prayers of others.

Your support has allowed us to purchase over 9,000 bears! 9,000 hearts being supported, because of you!  
Again, thank you so much for your donation!



# Save the Date

# September 13, 2026

13<sup>th</sup> Annual

Brianna Lee Foundation

Golf Outing

The Meadows Golf Course

4645 W Campus Dr  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

