Jonny Wade was born on April 9, 2007, in Lubbock, Texas. He arrived one minute before his twin brother, Jackson (nick-named “Jacky”), and from that point on, he always was going and doing.

Jonny was a witty, engaging kid who often showed insight far beyond his years. Everyone loved Jonny – especially Jacky, who was not only his twin, but also his best friend. Jonny’s strength, spirituality and love for life were contagious to all around him. He loved outdoor activities, particularly fishing and baseball.

A week before Christmas 2014, Jonny got a headache at school. Eight days later, he was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. During the next year, he endured countless surgeries, feeding tubes, radiation burns, daily nausea and unending fatigue.

Jonny died in his parents’ arms on Christmas Eve 2015.

As a first- and second-grader, Jonny faced crippling pain, anxiety and fear – all caused by cancer. What should have been a comfortable, carefree childhood was replaced by constant, excruciating hospital visits. But through it all, he maintained unbreakable faith in the midst of suffering and thought of others before himself.

“I don’t want any other kid to have cancer,” he told his mother. To fulfill that wish, we founded the Kids Shouldn’t Have Cancer Foundation in Memory of Jonny Wade.

No one should have to go through what Jonny and his family did – and we’re trying to make sure no one else does. We are devoted to conquering pediatric cancer through research and political action, with emphasis on responsible spending. We are united behind Jonny’s wish.

Let’s end pediatric cancer together and make Jonny’s wish come true.