

How has having a sibling(s) with Tay-Sachs, Sandhoff, GM1, Niemann-Pick, Canavan, or other allied disease impacted your life?

Wiz was a victim of infantile Tay-Sachs. I was six and she was four when she passed away, but her presence in my life has affected me in many ways. I can rarely speak of her or even think of her without my tears welling up and my nose getting plugged up, but sometimes I do. To those I tell our story to, I tell of the great number of positive things that have been sewed in as the silver lining on the event that has changed the course of my entire life. I can't think of who I would be without having been though the four years of my life with Wiz because it is a part of who I am and so much of who I am has come from this. Wiz provides me with motivation for things that I do in life because I know how much luck I have to still be around. I do everything I can to excel in the field that I apply myself to because I don't want to let an opportunity slip through my fingers. To those few people that hear my story; I say there was good that came from the bad. My parents got involved with NTSAD and it brought me to meeting good people who were experiencing the same kind of things that I went through. It was nice for me to be able to connect with others who understand what this is like. Since I have met so many people through this organization I have seen many people who put on a smile through adversity in their lives or others, hold their heads high, and strive to make the world happier and better. These three things are things I think of every day and try so hard to bring out. No matter what the environment I am immersed in, I try to smile, put a spring in my step and brighten up the day.