

“Why Cancer, Why?”

Dedicated to Miss Smith

By: Bailey Childress

Merriam Webster dictionary defines cancer as “ A disease caused by an uncontrolled division of abnormal cells in a part of the body.” Not only is cancer a spreading disease it is evil. Cancer will take your family, friends, or even your own life. In my case it was one of my school's first grade teachers, Ms. Emily Smith or more commonly known as Miss. Smith.

In this world people can be very naive. We think that people will always be with us, or we will have more time, but not everyone ends up being that lucky. Last year our world lost another great soul. Emily Smith passed away on January 16th of 2021, and impacted many peoples lives with her passing. People like her dont deserve this at all. Cancer takes lives, and it takes happiness.

While she was sick Miss Smith came to our school and we had an assembly for her. Her hair was cut due to the fact that it was falling out. When she was talking I could tell that she was fighting, and she wasn't acting like herself. She wasn't herself. You see, cancer can have a hold on people for so long that they don't even notice it. But I know everyone who knew her would fight to see her one more time. Everyone who knew somebody who passed from cancer had a special connection to them. Some might be their daughter, son, grandchild, or niece. But to Miss Smith I was just a kid, Yet she loved me and everyone else as her own.

In the year 2020 Miss Smith was diagnosed with a brain tumor with cancer cells. Those cells ended up leading to brain cancer and then the tumor grew back. After taking rounds of chemotherapy she was tired. But this time it was different. This time it was unfixable. The tumor wasn't going away. We all asked ourselves, “Why?” Why would something this bad happen to such a good person? But cancer didn't care.

Though our school was grieving we tried our hardest to make sure Miss Smith knew we loved her. We made posters and held them outside when she drove by. Lying in the hearse was her body but her soul

was in heaven. Seeing her driving by I knew she was gone but thinking she was really not coming back I felt my stomach drop. There was no she was going to get better. No, there's nothing to worry about. She was gone. She was really gone. Though she was gone she was still there. No matter how far away I get from Miss Smith she will always be with me. And we will always miss her but she is in a better place now. And will never have to go through any of the pain she had to go through any more.

When you hear the word cancer you think bad. But sometimes cancer can be a blessing in disguise. Don't get me wrong it is a horrible disease and can take lives no matter who you are. But during the time of Miss Smith's passing I had never gotten so close to my classmates. We bonded together like never before. There were many tears and many laughs. It really shows that even though you might not be best friends with everyone you can all be pulled together by one person. And that person was Miss Smith.

After you read this essay, if I could pick one thing you would remember about it, or me is that I loved Miss Smith. And Cancer, it can never take that from me. And to all the kids in heaven you have an amazing first grade teacher.