

## Cancer a Long Road for Boy, Father

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By Pat L. Record

In many ways, Travis Jaynes is a typical 10-year-old. He lives and breathes football, has a few girlfriends and is usually shy around grown-ups.

But for Travis there are crucial differences.

"Travis had always been an A and B student, but this past year he seemed to have a lot of trouble concentrating," said Rick Jaynes, his father. "The teachers began sending notes home saying, 'This isn't like Travis.'"

A physical examination detected Travis was suffering from malignant brain cancer. On Sept. 14 of last year, physicians at Fort Worth Children's Hospital removed an orange-sized tumor from the left side of his brain.

Surgeons could remove only 95 percent of the tumor, so life for the 10-year-old became an almost daily probing of needles and of radiation treatments.

Travis doesn't talk much about the cancer or the inconvenience it has caused him, but for his father, it has become another in a long line of setbacks since he moved his family to Texas three years ago. Jaynes, who left a job he had with the Nashville, Tenn. fire department, is now a farrier in Arlington.

It was a different outlook Jaynes had when he and his two sons, Travis and Richie, were living out of a cramped horse trailer on the outskirts of Arlington.

Jaynes, a self-avowed cowboy, had grown uncomfortable in the steady job his family expected of him. After a divorce, he decided to follow his rodeo yearnings.

When the threesome settled in a duplex in Arlington, the news about Travis was a crushing blow to Rick Jaynes.

"I was hysterical. I was lost," Jaynes said. "Coping with it made me bitter. But now I feel it is in the hands of the Lord.

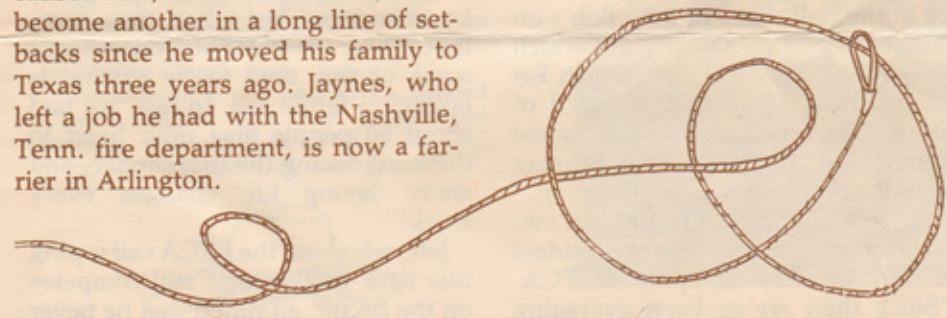
"No one wants to see their child go through something like this. There have been nights of praying when I wished it was happening to me instead of him."

Now, he says, faith will see him through.

## The almost impossible was possible.

Several years ago at the National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City, Freckles Brown rode the famous bull Tornado. He was unriden at the time, totally awesome. On top of Tornado, looking unrideable, Freckles was at 46 years old by the world's standards, passed the age of even attempting such a feat. Well, that night Freckles had faith that the "almost impossible was possible." It was a night for rodeo history. There is something strange though about history, if you weren't personally there to see that bull ride, that night in December, 1967 then the reality doesn't truly hit you. You won't deny that it happened, but because you weren't personally there, it just remains one more event in history. However, there is a video tape of Freckles riding Tornado, and if you see that ride and hear the crowd, you can begin to experience for yourself the excitement and the reality of that night.

It is exactly the same with the message of the good news of Jesus Christ. We hear stories told from the Bible about someone who could do anything; healing the sick, giving sight to the blind, raising the dead and turning water into wine. Now if someone asked us about all these things that Jesus did, we probably would not deny that they were true, but because many, many years have passed and we weren't there personally, it doesn't become a reality to us. But God has video too, in the Word of God. The Bible is God's recorded video, when we personally sit down and begin to see it. Romans 10:17 says, "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is hearing through the word of Christ." Faith is the Lord Jesus Christ and what He personally did for us turns the Bible from stale history into something living and exciting . . . a brand new life in Jesus.



### A Father's Viewpoint

By Rick Jaynes

"The only thing that got us through this and the only thing that can do something about it is the Lord Jesus."

The Word of God says in Mark 11: 23-24 "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, Go throw yourself into the sea and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

The Word also says in Isaiah that Jesus Christ died that we might be healed — Isaiah 53:5 "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Surgery got 95% of the tumor and the last Cat Scan showed no tumor. Confidence in the Lord Jesus as Proverbs 3:26 says "for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared." and standing on His Word has brought Travis through this. All things work to the glory of God and through Him all things can be accomplished. PRAISE THE LORD!



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Jeff Copenhagen . . . . . Pastor