



75°F



## News

[News](#)  
[Sports](#)  
[Weather](#)  
[Obituaries](#)  
[Features](#)  
[Discussions](#)  
[Business](#)  
[Crime Blotter](#)  
[Opinion](#)  
[Calendar](#)  
[Announcements](#)

## Features

[Town Guides](#)  
[Discussions](#)  
[Special Sections](#)

## Shop

[Classifieds](#)  
[Ad Shopper](#)  
[Photo Reprints](#)

## Entertainment

[FunZone](#)  
[TV Listings](#)  
[Contests](#)  
[Photo Gallery](#)

## Services

[Translator](#)  
[Archives](#)  
[Subscribers](#)  
[Forms](#)  
[Advertise](#)  
[Submit a Letter](#)  
[About Us](#)  
[Contact Us](#)

## In memory of Killian

### Orangeburg native raises money to fight child cancers

By [LEE HENDREN](#), T&D Staff Writer  
 Wednesday, August 02, 2006

After losing their nine-year-old son, Killian, to leukemia three years ago, Orangeburg native Clay C wife, Grainne, did more than mourn.

They established Curing Kids' Cancer, a national grassroots movement that aims to raise both awareness and money toward curing all types of childhood cancer.

"Anything we can do to save another family from going through what we've gone through is what every minute," Clay Owen said in an interview.

Born in Orangeburg, Owen grew up in North. He said his father and mother and "hundreds of cousins and relatives still reside in or near Orangeburg County.

Owen is a former staff writer at The T&D. After a year and a half at WIS-TV in Columbia, he received a scholarship to earn his master's degree in London.

He met his wife there, and worked there for 10 years before moving to Marietta, Ga., where he worked for Cingular, the largest wireless company in the nation.

"My other full-time job," Owen said, is working with Curing Kids' Cancer.

"In many ways, it's extremely difficult because we're so personally tied to it," Owen said. "It's not an easy therapeutic to do this. We look at it as a way of honoring his memory. We're trying to turn it into something good."

Owen's father, Paul Owen Sr. of North, and his sister, Gina Janvrin of Columbia, organized a golf tournament at Hillcrest Golf Course in Orangeburg.

The second annual Killian Owen Memorial Golf Tournament was held March 25 under sunny but windy conditions, Owen said.

More money for the cause was raised at Heathwood Hall Episcopal School's Kickin' Kids' Cancer to Mothers' flag football game on May 12.

Clay and Grainne's sister-in-law, Elizabeth Owen of Columbia, spearheaded that effort.

The proceeds from those events allowed Curing Kids' Cancer to donate \$11,000 to Palmetto Health Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders on Monday.

## MORE NEWS

[Political season begins](#)  
[Education candidate: Vouchers not an option](#)  
[City Council approves 5 percent tax increase](#)  
[Lawmakers may undo school tax hikes](#)  
[In memory of Killian](#)  
 COLUMN: [In the air again](#)

The money will give children cancer patients the opportunity to participate in clinical and biological

"Participation in these trials ensures that our children receive the most current treatment available. Neuberger, pediatric oncologist at Palmetto Health.

"New knowledge about the biology and treatment of childhood cancer will help us achieve our goal to cure all children with cancer in our lifetime," Neuberger added.

Owen said cancer was "a virtual death sentence" for children 40 years ago. Now, thanks to clinical treatment has advanced so far that the survival rate is almost 80 percent, he said.

"The beauty of this donation is that so much of the money was raised by the children of South Carolina's Grainne Owen.

"We're happy that this money can stay in the Palmetto State to help find a cure for children's cancer," Owen added.

Clay Owen said another benefit golf tournament in Atlanta raised \$100,000 for Children's Health Center.

It will help pay the salary of a research nurse who will collect and sift through data to find out which treatments are the most effective.

The ultimate goal, he said, is to identify targeted therapies that "focus on the cancer cells" rather than kill all cells, good and bad," as chemotherapy does.

-- T&D Staff Writer [Lee Hendren](mailto:lhendren@timesanddemocrat.com) can be reached by e-mail at [lhendren@timesanddemocrat.com](mailto:lhendren@timesanddemocrat.com) or 803-533-5552. Discuss this and other stories online at [TheTandD.com](http://TheTandD.com).

---

[E-mail this page](#)

[Print version](#)

---

Current Rating: 0 of 0 votes! Rate File:

---

## Comments:

---

### Add Your Own Comments »

Name:

Comments:

Post Comment

