

FEBRUARY 18, 2001



Bacon's

# Make-a-Wish sends Lansing youth, family to Hawaii

Make-a-Wish Foundation recently sent Kyle, a 17-year-old Lansing resident with Cystic Fibrosis and his family on an all expense paid trip to Hawaii.

Kyle, whose last name has been withheld by Make-a-Wish to protect the family's privacy, was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis at birth. Although this disease is potentially life-threatening, he does not let it keep him down.

Kyle is a self-taught guitar player and enjoys the music of Jimmy Page and Led Zeppelin. He has a close-knit family and he spends a lot of time with his brother Alex.

So, when Make-A-Wish offered to lift his spirits by granting a special wish for him, it is not surprising that Kyle wanted to include his family on a vacation to Hawaii. Kyle, his brother and parents just returned from their vacation, which included visits to Maui and Oahu.

Some of his favorite activities there included swimming with the dolphins, deep-sea fishing, snorkeling and celebrating New Year's Eve.

Kyle's wish was funded through a special on-air fund-raising event during Make-A-Wish week on WLUP-FM, 97.9, The Loop. This was the third consecutive year the activity was conducted.

Sponsors included Comdisco Inc.; On-Cor Frozen Foods; Rosati's Pizza and United Auto Workers/General Motors.

Kyle broadcast a special message including why he wished to visit Hawaii and why the wish is so precious to him. Loop listeners were encouraged to call in and make donations to help his wish come true.

"The community really gets behind this fund-raising opportunity. They like to see that their money is specifically going to make a child's dream come true," said Lisa Lombardi of The Loop.

Funds for his wish and others were raised through personal donations and sponsorships. Make-A-Wish exists to bring hope, strength and joy to children who are battling life-threatening illnesses.

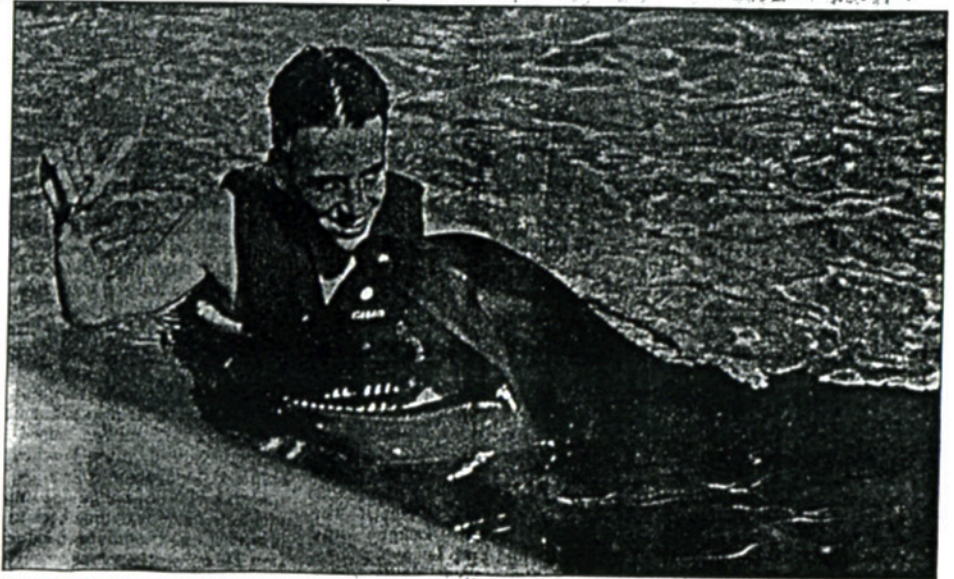
Kyle and his family were thrilled to have the experience of visiting Hawaii together. "The most memorable experience will be seeing a 'Wal-Phin,' an animal that is half dolphin and half whale," he said.

Nearly half of the children wish to visit Disney World. Other popular wishes are to own a computer, go on a shopping spree or meet a favorite celebrity.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northern Illinois fulfills the wishes of children with life-threatening illnesses to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

It is part of Make-A-Wish of America, the largest wish granting organization in the world. Founded in 1985, the Northern Illinois chapter has fulfilled the wishes of more than 3,000 children in the 24 northern-most counties of Illinois.

For more information about Make-A-Wish, visit its Web site at [www.wishes.org](http://www.wishes.org). To refer a child, phone (312) 943-8956.



Kyle, a resident of Lansing who is battling cystic fibrosis, swims with the dolphins in Hawaii. Kyle's wish came true, thanks to an on-air Make-A-Wish Foundation fund-raiser held by WLUP, The Loop 97.9 FM. Sponsors of the event included: Comdisco Inc., Rosati's Pizza, On-Cor frozen foods, United Auto Workers and General Motors.