# Smashingwalnuts





Where it all began....

The first time Gabriella spoke in front of a crowd. She delivered almost 250,000 "Dear Santa" letters to Macy's for their Make -A -Wish Campaign.





Newspaper article about Make-A-Wish.







The first time that Gabriella spoke on the National Mall.









Childhood cancer advocates Gabriella and Erin Griffin (from Australia) Smashing Walnuts in front of the US Capitol.





Delegate Randy Minchew presenting Gabriella with a Proclamation from the Virginia Assembly for her childhood cancer awareness work.





## Gabriella with the Run for the White House team.





5K for the benefit of Smashing Walnuts Foundation put on by Gabriella's 13 year old cousin.









5K for the benefit of Smashing Walnuts Foundation put on by Gabriella's 13 year old cousin.





Gabriella received the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.



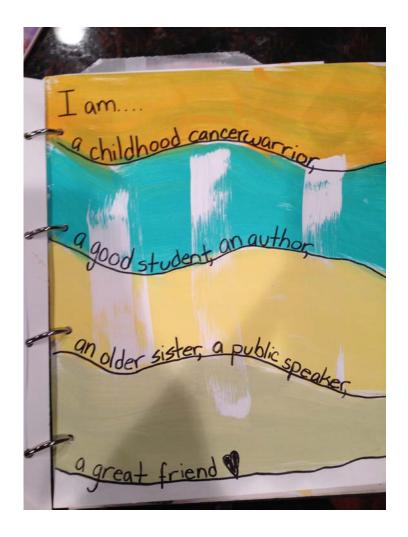
Hope, helps us get better. Hope, gives us another day to look foward to. Hope, helps us believe we can survive Hope, can help us win this battle. And if all else fails, Hope, can lead the others to win the war. And by Hope I mean a little girl, a little girl,

Good morning! Things that make me happy.... my stuffies, peppy music 22 Things that make me sad.... The hospital, losing a friend 22

#### Gabriella's Writings

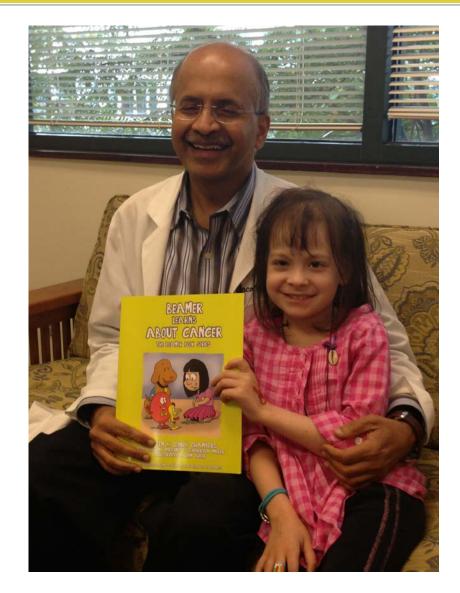


Today, was a greiving day. Today, a friend went on a trip. I don't know when he'll come back. I don't know if he'll ever come back. I am sad I am scared. I am confused. I amanary. I miss my friend. I cannot bring him back. But I can fight in his honor. to Gain RUPP



#### Gabriella's Writings





Gabriella's book about cancer.





Gabriella wrote the foreward in a child's book about cancer.







#### Gabriella smashing walnuts with a reporter that did a story about her.







Jay Korff, a reporter from WJLA, won an Emmy for a childhood cancer story that he did about Gabriella. He gave his Emmy to Gabriella.





### Gabriella at CureFest with other childhood brain cancer children.







Virginia Governor declaring September to be Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.





Virginia Governor's mansion lit GOLD for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.





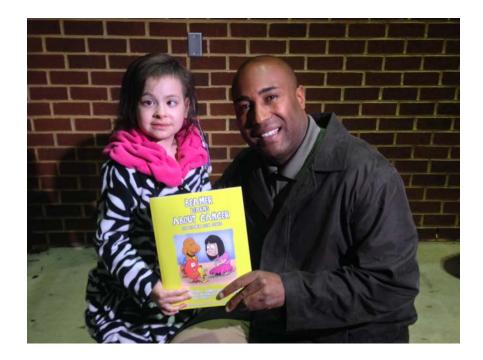




Gabriella at the Virginia State Capitol with Jake.







#### Reporter Shomare Stone doing a story on Gabriella.





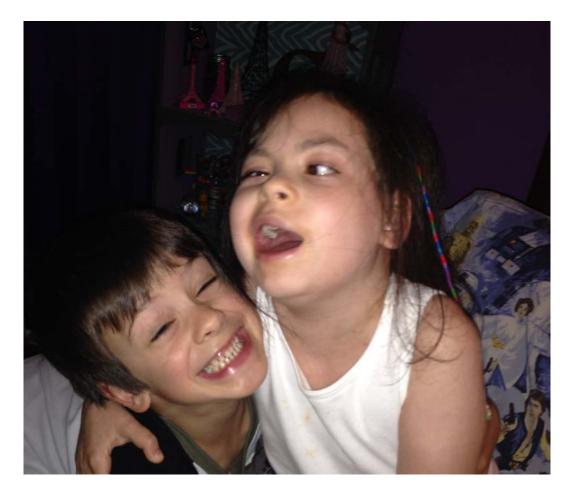
Gabriella, one month before she died, wearing her "Today I can Do Anything" t-shirt.





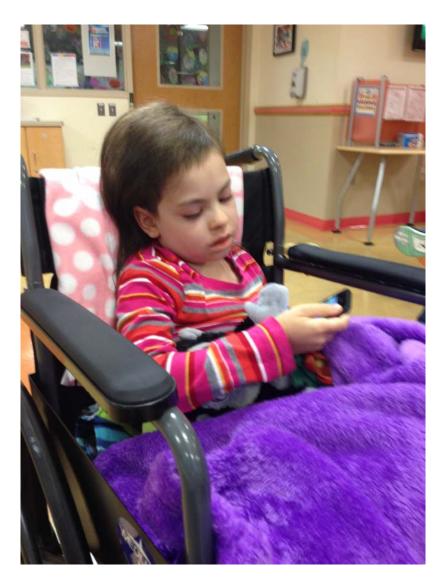
Eight days before Gabriella died, she was out raising awareness about childhood cancer with a poster that she made.





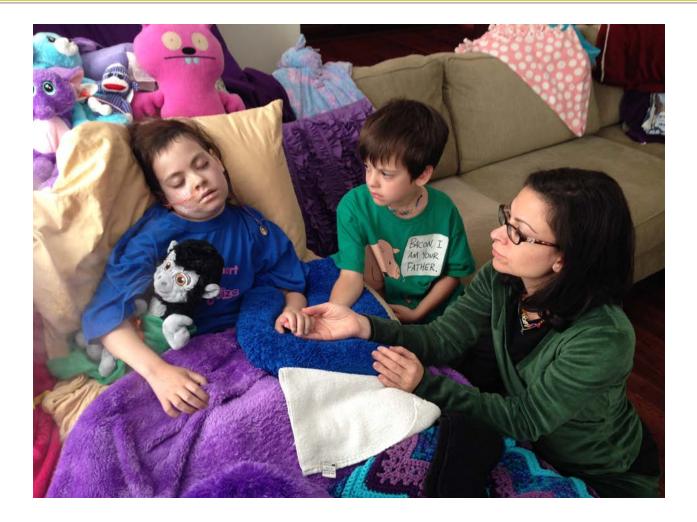
Gabriella playing with her brother, Jake, the night before she came home on hospice.





The day that Gabriella came home on hospice - she died five days later.





My reasons for the advocacy work that I do - my kids, Gabriella & Jake.

Gabriella died 12 hours after this picture was taken.





Two weeks after Gabriella died Mark and I met with House Majority Leader, Eric Cantor. Gabriella's name was attached to the "Kids First Research Act".





Five days after Gabriella's name was attached to the "Gabriella Miller First Kids Research Act" Mark and I went to see Gabriella's killer.





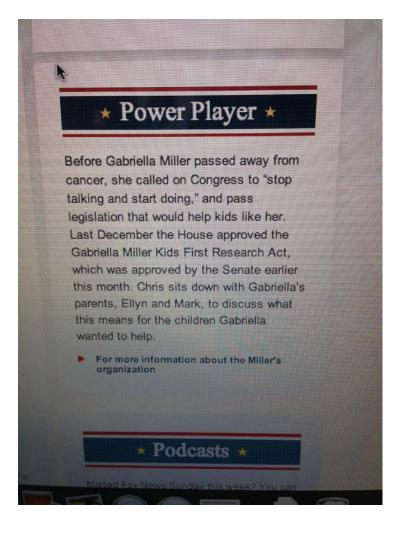
18 days after Gabriella's name was attached to the Bill, reporter Dana Bash came to do a story about the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act".





Meeting with Congressman Wolf.





Mark and I were interviewed by Chris Wallace.

Gabriella was his Power Player of the Week.







#### Chris Wallace interview.





Meeting with Eric Cantor prior to the House vote on the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act" 27 days after Gabriella's name was attached to the Bill.



# HR: 2019 Gabriella Miller Kids First Act has Passed

#### In the House of Representatives 12-11-13



Bill sponsor, Congressman Harper, speaking on the House floor during the vote.





Mark and I after the Bill passed the House with a 295-103 vote.





Visiting with Senator Hatch and Senator Kaine to ask them to be the Senate sponsor for the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act".





House Majority Leader, Eric Cantor, presenting us with a copy of the speech he gave on the House floor during the vote.





Graphic for the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act."





Reporter Peggy Fox, from USA9, came to our home to interview us prior to going to the White House.





Outside the Oval Office prior to meeting President Obama for the signing of the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research" into law.





In the Oval Office moments before the Bill is signed.





President Obama signing the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act" into law.





President Obama handing Jake one of the pen's used to sign the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act" into law.





Gabriella's little brother, Jake, signing his name with the pen that President Obama used to sign the Bill.





Jake on the cover of the newspaper.





President Ohama presents a pen to Jake Miller after signing into iau the Cabriella Miller Kids First Research Act. The legislation was named for Jake's sister, who died of bruin cancer

## Obama signs pediatric medical research act named for fighter

Gabriella Miller's dving wish was to raise awareness

#### BY CATTLIN GIBSON

Less than six months after 10year-old childhood cancer awareness advocate Gabriella Miller lost her battle with brain cancer, a federal pediatric medical research bill named in her honor was signed into law by President Obama at a White House ceremony Thursday afternoon.

Gabriella, a fifth-grader from Leesburg, Va., became a celebrated activist and successful fundraiser during her 11-month fight against brain cancer In the weeks urged lawmakers to take up the cause of pediatric cancer research. "Talk is [expletive]," also said bluntly during a documentary film interview. "We need action."

Congressional leaders answered her call last year with the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act, a bipartisan bill that will divert \$126 million - money previously used to finance national political conventions - to the common fund at the National Institutes of Health, where it will support research on childhood cancer and other pediatric diseases and disorders.

"In effect what happened was Congress put down the battle aves for a moment and took a step forward by investing research dollars in pediatric disease," Rep. Peter Welch (D-VL) told The Wash-

before her death on Oct. 16, she ington Post after attreding the signing of the measure. 'It took this truly impirational effort by The mostical research act, span-

noted by Welch and Rep. Gregg by House Majority Landre Stic Cantor (R-Va.), was passed by the earned bipartisan support in both hambers despite opposition in some Bonse Denovyata, who said

backed sequester cuts to National satitutes of Bealth Bushing. Welch said he understood those

trankly, about the cens to NTH. certainly think that there should be more money (for medical research), but the fact that we can't get what we like is not a reason to not do what we can do, and we did

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Calling all angels and everyday heroes ward us your first person stories of how someone banged your ide through random acts of courage

#### A WHITE HOUSE MOMENT FOR GABRIELLA'S CAUSE

A MILLER, THE RO-YEAR-OLD LEESBURG GIRL WHO WON THE WAS INDROBED WITH A NEW PEDERAL FUNDING ACT IN HER STELLY AL.



Newspapers article about the Bill signing.





Woodgrove teams start strong

Softball and basebal teams are off to impressive starts B1

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#### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

September 29, 2014

The Miller Family Ashburn, Virginia

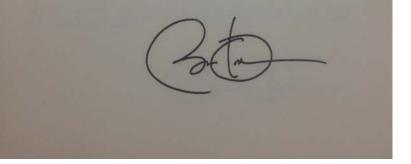
Dear Mark, Ellyn, and Jake:

Thank you for your gifts you gave last spring. It was an honor to sign the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act in memory of your wonderful daughter and sister.

Please know that families like yours, and children like Gabriella. motivate me to work even harder and continue the fight against pediatric cancer.

Thank you again. I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,



Letter from President Obama.





Graphic that was created for the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act" campaign.





Badges from visiting the Capitol.





Mark and I presented House Majority Leader, Eric Cantor, with a signed copy of Gabriella's book along with a silver walnut.





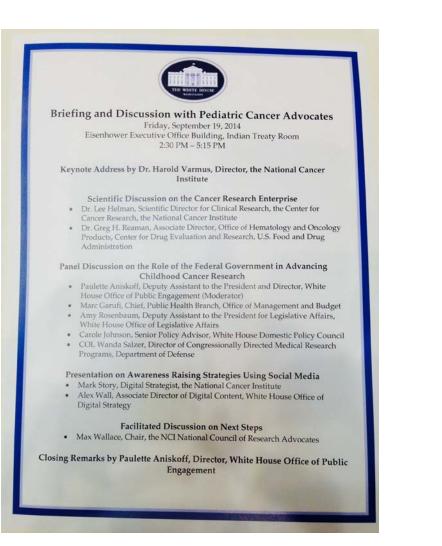
Congressman Harper was an original sponsor of the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act". We gave him some of the flowers from Gabriella's funeral. To this day he still has them displayed in the foyer in his office for all visitors to see.





With Congressmen McCaul and Van Hollen - leaders of the House Childhood Cancer Caucus.





#### NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, 2014

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Each year, pediatric cancer interrupts the childhood and limits the potential of thousands of young Americans. It is estimated that almost 16,000 of our daughters and sense under the age of 20 will be diagnosed with cancer this year, and it remains the leading cause of disease-related death for doldness. This month—in hours of these young patients, their lowed ones, and all these who support them—we medicate source/we to combating this devastation.

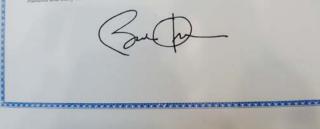
redelicate substrive to commating time deviatation. The proof of them-we Critical research has led to real progress in the fight against pechatric cancer. Improvements in treatment and increased participation in clinical trails have helped decrease motivality rates for many papes of childhood cancer by more than 50 percent over the past 30 years. These gains remind us of the importance of supporting existing induces, and give us hope for a riture previous control of the importance of supporting the security part length the Cashrelfa Miller Kals First Research progress. As part of this continues, earlier his year 1 signed the Cashrelfa Miller Kals First Research progress. As part of this continues available in this Fund to support the urgent medical innovation that could lead by interchanging breakthroughs.

could lead to interchanging treatmentation. As we continue to pursue medical advances, the Atfordable Care Act is improving families' access to pulliry, affordable health coverage. Childhood cancer can occur suddenly, with no early symptems, and regular medical checkups can be detect preliatric cancer at an early stage. The Atfordable Care Act helps millions of families access this essential medical care, and new protections eliminate annual act lifetime dollar limits on coverage. Insurance companies are also prohibited from denying coverage act lifetime dollar limits on coverage. Insurance companies are also prohibited from denying accessa-tion a history of cancer, or any other pre-existing condition, and from denying participation in an dament of the density of the instanting disease. approved clinical trial for any life-threatening disease

During National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, our Nation comes together to remember all During reduced of the service of the bloce whose this were cut stort by pertain cancer, to recognize the toyed ones who know kes well the pain it causes, and to support every child and every family batting cancer each day. We join with their loved ones and the researchers, health care provides, and advocates who support them as we work waved a lowerow where all children are able to pursue their full measure of happiness without the toward a lowerow where all children are able to pursue their full measure of happiness without the

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby preclaim September 2014 as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Lencourage all Americans to join me in reaffirming our commitment to fighting childhood cancer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have bereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-ninth.



#### Attending the White House Childhood Cancer briefing.







Smashing Walnuts Foundation sponsored CureFest 2014 - a childhood cancer rally on the National Mall. We were presented with the "Difference Maker" award in honor of Gabriella.







I was one of the featured speakers at CureFest. I had my head shaved in front of hundreds of people. Several people were motivated to do the same...







Shaving my head at CureFest.

Speaking to crowd after my head was shaved.





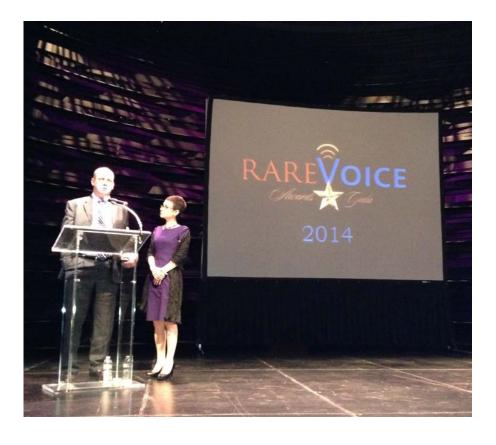
With another bereaved mom after shaving out heads at CureFest.





Me with my newly shaved head wearing a t-shirt saying September is childhood cancer awareness month.







Mark and I accepting the Rare Voice award on behalf of Gabriella. Cheryl Jaeger, Eric Cantor's health policy writer, also received a RV award. Cheryl was instrumental in writing the "Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act".





Meeting with Congresswoman Barbara Comstock.





Since Gabriella's death she sends me hearts. Oftentimes in the most bazaar and unique places.

I got a call one day from the doctor that has G's tumor. This is a slide of her tumor. He told me that he is a man of science. But, he felt her reaching out to him telling him to do more!





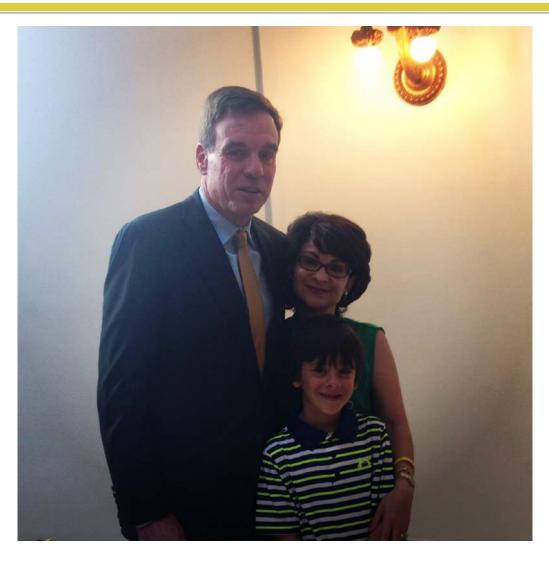
Dr. Francis Collins is the Director of NIH. I was on the campus for a conference one day and decided to knock on his door. After telling me that he had back-to-back appointments that day his receptionist made time for me when I told her that I am Gabriella's mom.





Delegate Tag Greeson and Congresswoman Barbara Comstock at our Walk & Fitness Challenge.





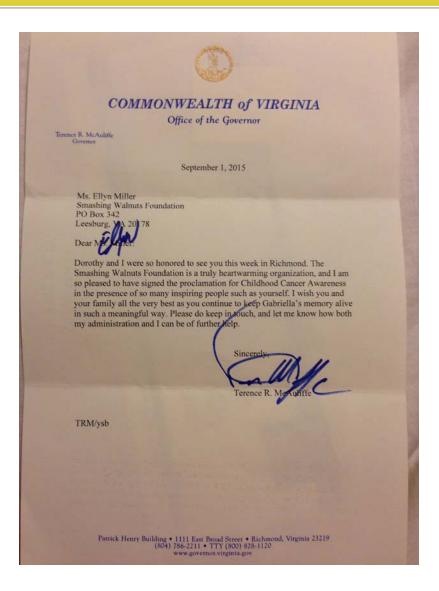
Back on Capitol Hill, I brought Jake to spend a day with me on Capitol Hill. We met with Senator Warner.





Another Virginia Governor declaring September as Childhood Cancer Awareness month.





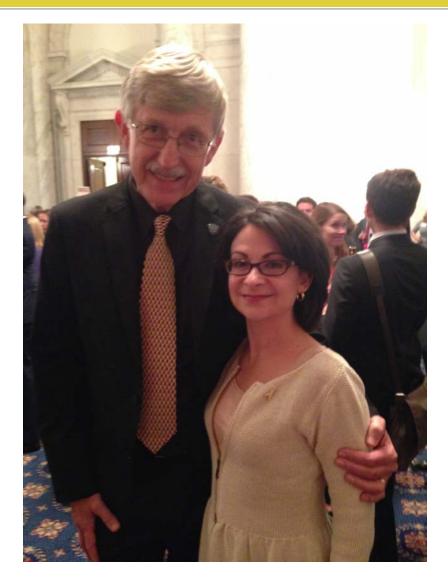
#### Letter from the Governor of Virginia.





Another year of meeting with the Virginia Governor.





Dr. Collins at Rally for Medical Research in DC.





Dr. Collins as keynote speaker at Smashing Walnuts Foundation.





## Hill Days on Capitol Hill.





Meeting with Senator Kaine.



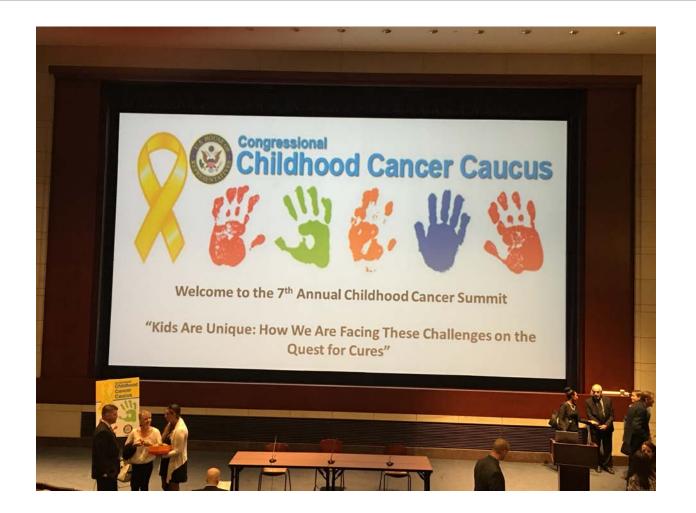






#### White House briefing.





### Attending Childhood Cancer Caucus.







National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Briefing

> Welcome Fae Jencks Senior Policy Advisor for Public Engagement Office of Science and Technology Policy

NCI Pediatric Cancer Overview and Q&A Dr. Doug Lowy Acting Director National Cancer Institute

WH Cancer Moonshot Overview and Q&A Dr. Danielle Carnival Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Director White House Cancer Moonshot Task Force

> Advocates Ask and Offer All

**Optional Group Photo** 



Another year at the White House Childhood Cancer briefing with researchers and advocates.



# Smashingwalnuts

