

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL GROUP HONORS THE LIFE OF A SPECIAL FRIEND TONIGHT.

September 29, 2017, PowerKids Center, Palm Desert, CA: One local children's facility and their gymnastics team will be honoring the life of a very special friend today. Zoey Eborsole was just a toddler when she was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy, a condition that left her in a wheelchair and at risk for serious complications throughout childhood. At the young age of 8 and despite her physical limitations, Zoey found a way to use her condition as a platform to change her communities' perception of young people with disabilities.

Zoey was a special guest speaker during local summer camps, teaching other Coachella Valley kids about compassion and what it means to be unique. Every January, Zoey participated in the "Day of Acceptance", a nation-wide social media event that draws awareness and encourages understanding towards those facing disabilities. She was also an active member of the Rubies Special Needs Cheer Team as well as an Honor Roll Student. Her cheer coach Josh Stevens said, "Very few people actually get to meet an angel while on earth. We were all blessed to be part of that small group."

Perhaps most extraordinary was her love of family, and her family's devotion to giving Zoey the best life imaginable. After spending Zoey's 8th birthday in Loma Linda's Children's Hospital in December of 2016, the family made a life-changing decision. In March of 2017, Zoey's family sold their home and all of their possessions. Determined to live life to the fullest as a family, no matter what it took, they decided they would live the next year out of their RV. They would spend every day together, with father Dave joining up with them anytime he was off work. They asked Zoey to make a "bucket list" of all of the things she would want to see or do during that year. They documented their inspiring family journey on social media with the hashtags #HomelsWhereWeParkIt, #zoeylynnsworld #lifewithmuscular dystrophy and #nopicketfenceneeded.

While camped at the beach on September 14th, 2017, Zoey unexpectedly stopped breathing. After being transported to the hospital, she passed away surrounded by family. A force of nature, Zoey will be remembered for her courage, her sense of humor, her passion for life, and for her positive attitude.

"Zoey inspired so many people because of her willingness to understand her own limitations, and she didn't allow those limitations to hold her back," said La Quinta's Staci Stevens, whose 9 year old daughter Parker volunteered weekly on Zoey's special needs cheer team. "She inspired my daughter through her kind heart, her amazing attitude, and her love of life. I will forever be grateful to have known Zoey and the way she forever touched my family's hearts."

PowerKids Center in Palm Desert will be celebrating her legacy with a free open gym from 6:00-10:00 pm tonight, September 29th. Donations will be accepted at the door with all profits going to the family. Walmart, Party City, Dominos, Custom Zone and Wally's Desert Turtle Restaurant all donated items for this community fundraiser. The family has asked that those proceeds be given to the non-profit Rubies Special Needs Cheer Team.

PowerKids Center – Co-Owner Alison Vaughn – Alison@powerkidscenter.com
760-401-4071 (cell) – 760-407-1171 (office)

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