FUELING THE FIRE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Meghan Morris Lanier
(1991 – 2007)

"By raising money for cancer research, our hope is that someday no one else will lose 'their' Meghan."
– Jamie Lanier, *Mother of Meghan Lanier and Fire+Ice co-chair*

Everyone has a different reason for supporting UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. For this year's Fire + Ice co-chair, Jamie Lanier, the reason is very personal. In October 2006, Meghan Lanier, daughter of Patrick and Jamie Lanier, was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer. After Patrick and Jamie thoroughly researched top national and international cancer centers, it was apparent that the very best option – one that rivaled treatment options available anywhere else – was in their own backyard, UNC Lineberger.

"At UNC, Meghan was treated with exceptional care by a dedicated team of physicians, nurses and therapists. The relationship they developed with our family and their responsiveness to Meghan's needs made us feel as though we received special treatment," says Jamie. "Looking around, however, we realized that this was how every patient and family was treated at UNC – special," she adds.

Ultimately, Meghan lost her battle with cancer in 2007. Just as they will never forget Meghan's laugh, her love for art, or her courage when living with cancer, Patrick and Jamie will never forget their experience with UNC Lineberger's caring physicians and staff.

"Each day, the research, prevention and outreach programs developed at UNC Lineberger help cancer patients in North Carolina and across the country. This is critical to increase survival rates and we challenge each of you to fuel the fire against cancer by supporting and attending UNC Lineberger's largest annual fundraising event, Fire + Ice," she says.

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