

# *Faith and Katie have only their childhood to experience a lifetime.*



Faith and Katie, the vivacious little girls in this photo, are two of our three precious daughters. Our beautiful little rays of sunshine love to giggle, play dollies with their big sister, Serina, sing and dance. They both want to grow up to be princesses just like Snow White.

They don't know what Niemann-Pick Disease (NPD) is, but we, as their parents, know. Their doctors predict that Faith and Katie will never drive, never date, never go to college, never have children, never....

The doctor says Faith and Katie will most likely not live past their teens. The grim truth is that we will soon need to purchase wheelchairs, have feeding tubes placed in their stomachs, and install hospital beds in our home.

The doctor tells us that soon, we will not be able to hear their sweet, angelic sing-song voices because they will be unable to speak. As you can imagine, we, their parents, are in agony – desperate for treatments to save our beautiful little girls.

Tragically, we as a family, know all too well how NPD will soon take over our precious daughters' lives as we have already lost our only son, Tyler, to NPD Type C disease on December 26, 2005, at the tender age of 7.

Research will not happen without funding. Please, can you help us in our quest for a cure?

*Tim and Liz Heinze*



***Faith (5) and Katie (7) Heinze,  
daughters of Tim and Liz Heinze.***



The children's dire prognosis captures the meaning of Niemann-Pick Disease Type C (NPC). It's a disease that strikes children through accumulation of excess fats in the cells of the liver, spleen and brain. When brain cell function is blocked, the child loses coordination, stumbles, falls, and eventually will need a wheelchair, hospital bed and other adaptive equipment. As the disease worsens, other devastating symptoms develop, including loss of the ability to speak and swallow, and seizures may occur. The health of a child with NPC declines until ultimately, the disease claims his or her life.

Today, there is no cure for Niemann-Pick, but research is making progress. Tomorrow, through research made possible by the financial support of generous contributors, these precious children can be saved. But they need your help now. The National Niemann-Pick Disease Foundation (NNPDF) works to fund research and to support families in their day-to-day care of children with NPD. The NNPDF, established in 1992, is an international, voluntary, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization comprised of parents, relatives and friends committed to finding a cure.

Please, will you consider sponsoring a child with Niemann-Pick Disease, to support research into treatments and a cure? Faith, Katie, and hundreds of other children, each loved and treasured by their family and friends, will benefit from your generosity. Please, say you'll help today with a donation to the NNPDF in honor of the Heinze girls, your special NPD family member or friend, or all children and young adults fighting Niemann-Pick Disease.

**Together, we can beat this devastating disease which robs parents of their children, and children of their lives.**