

## Gracie's Story

Gracie was diagnosed with Leukemia October 14th 2013. She just turned 4 years old. The night before she was diagnosed Gracie was complaining about leg pains and the following morning she was unable to put any pressure on her leg. I made an appointment that morning at her pediatric doctor. By then she started running a fever so she decided to draw labs. They discovered that her platelets were really low. Her doctor sent her up to Vanderbilt Children's hospital. After several hours in the ER. Gracie had an xray to see if there were any issues with her leg which turned out normal. After hours of lab work I received the most devastating news ever. That my baby had cancer. That night she was admitted into the hospital. The next day she had a bone marrow biopsy to see what type of leukemia she had which is ALL. The next day she had surgery to place a port and started chemo that night. She has had 6 rounds or stages of chemo.

Gracie has had a few complications including blood clots where she had to have 2 shots a day for several months. She lost her hair twice, lost 7 lbs, now has neuropathy pains in her legs, has been admitted for a really bad infection from a cut on her foot, and the overall side effects from the chemotherapy. Her treatments will last 2 1/2 years. Through everything she always has a smile on her face. Gracie is a strong beautiful spirited little girl and I know she will beat cancer!