

JULIE BROWNING ICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Julie Browning Ice (Mercy '89) adored the Mercy Academy. In Mercy, she found a home filled with love. In May of 2023, at the age of 52, Julie passed away leaving a legacy of faith, hope, love and courage.

Diagnosed late in her life with Cystic Fibrosis (age 23), Julie would learn why she was always ill. She'd reached deep within herself, relying on the values instilled in her from the Mercy Academy. A shortened life expectancy of 29 years was given to her. She didn't cower. She held firm in her fight to help others find a cure. Her battle inspired cystic patients across the world to believe in themselves and fight hard until a cure was found. Julie's efforts would help expand the life expectancy of all cystic fibrosis sufferers from 29 years of age to 44.

Blowing past her life expectancy prognosis, Julie lobbied the U.S. Capital on behalf of the CF Foundation. Early intervention and treatment is the secret to longevity in cystic patients. In 2008, President George W. Bush signed a law that would require insurance companies to pay for a \$35 Cystic Fibrosis test for new born babies. My beautiful wife, the tiniest of people, did something few could. She relied on her larger than life heart and her ability to fight like a Mercy Girl to help others.

In 2011, Julie received the life-saving gift of organ donation. Two donor lungs would carry her, enriching our lives beyond measure, as she journeyed to fight for a cure for others. Those lungs would sustain her for 11.5 years!

Julie's story of courage inspired generations. In 2013 her story, "Julie: The Courage to Breathe" was published. She raised millions for CF Research. In her lifetime, she would see an incurable disease find a containment. Her efforts directly helped deliver breakthrough medicines that help Cystic Fibrosis patients live.

As her husband of 29 years, it is my honor to share her life with you. Julie believed strongly in empowering young women. It is my greatest wish that her story inspires you to never give up.

We all face adversity at times. Those that never quit have the greatest chance of success. My Julie would always want you to believe in yourself and remember that during the darkest of times it's important to have the strongest of faith. Always believe in yourself!

Respectfully Yours,
Roy E. Ice - Husband to a Mercy Girl
We Love You All! God Bless