



FC44 Foundation, Inc.

REFLECTION AND THANKS FROM JAY MURNEN

FC44 Supporter –

It's hard to believe it has been 25 years. 25 years since Kurt lost his battle with cancer, since Kurt walked with us, and since I have seen and talked to my brother. The pain does not go away, but the degrees change over time. I still have anger and regret. I wish Kurt was still here to lean on, provide me guidance, and make me laugh. There are many milestones which I feel cheated out of. Kurt wasn't the best man at my wedding. Kurt never met my wife. My three daughters will never meet and know Kurt.

I think if we are being honest, the hope is when we are no longer here, we have made a mark on this world and will be missed, remembered, and celebrated by family and others. Since Kurt was taken from us at the age of 19, it was hard for us as a family to see this. We wanted to do something in Kurt's memory but wondered if anyone would care. This all changed for us in 2014 when we started the FC44 Foundation to celebrate and remember Kurt, perpetuate his legacy, and continue his fight against cancer. What we learned then and know now, is that even though it has been 25 years since Kurt has been with us, the people who had the opportunity to know him and witness his journey, still remember and care about Kurt and the lessons he taught all of us.

Besides being a father to my three girls, the work of FC44 has been the most rewarding experience of my life. For what this has provided to me and my family, all I can say is THANK YOU and extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude! Because of you, others have been helped in Kurt's name and his memory is alive. I can't tell you the amount of healing this journey has provided to me and my family.

Since 2014, FC44 has received over \$315,000 in donations from friends and family like you who still remember and care about Kurt. Today I can confidently tell you that with your help, FC44 is having a significant impact on the lives of others and in the fight against cancer in Kurt's name and memory. \$180,000 has been provided to Kettering Health to support the innovation of the utilization of physical therapy in the cancer treatment plan. Its inclusion has a profound and measurable impact on the patient's ability to endure the physical and mental challenges of treatment and reduce hospital stays and out-of-pocket costs. Kurt's name and legacy also lives on at Archbishop Alter High School. Kurt's #44 was retired. Over \$80,000 in Kurt Murnen Memorial Scholarships have been awarded to 22 students over the last ten years who have positively impacted others by demonstrating courage and strength in the face of adversity. Each year, we are able to see and remember Kurt in the current students of Alter either through their story, personality, and/or character.

For what you have provided to FC44 and our family over the last 10 years, all I can do is tell you how humbled and grateful we are. You have allowed us to heal. You have allowed us to know and see that Kurt is still remembered. You have allowed us to help others in Kurt's name and memory. Each year, my dad questions me whether or not what we are doing with FC44 is sustainable. And each year, thanks to the loyalty and generosity of people like you, the answer has been a resounding yes! Thank you for all the support you have shown us in the past, during this year's campaign, and in the years to come!

With Gratitude and Appreciation,

Jay Murnen
Kurt's brother
FC44 Foundation Inc., President

