

*This is from her mom:*

*This is our sweet, sometimes sassy, but always thoughtful little girl. She's a bright, creative kid who loves spending time with her brothers and making things – everything from cooking and pottery to fashion and engineering projects.*

*On the evening of her eighth birthday, she started complaining of knee pain, and within several days, was having trouble walking. The following week, she was admitted to the hospital and diagnosed with advanced Burkitt Lymphoma, an extremely aggressive cancer that affects the white blood cells. She was immediately transferred to MD Anderson to start intensive chemotherapy. Because the treatment is designed to destroy the patient's own damaged blood cells, my daughter required frequent blood transfusions, sometimes several in one week. Without them, her chances of surviving the treatment and complications were slim.*

*The generosity of blood donors has helped save my daughter's life, and for that I am humbled and thankful.*

*When something like this happens, it turns your world upside-down. It is often the kindness and generosity of family, friends, and strangers that gets you through the day. We don't always realize the impact that we have on others. When you take time out of your day, you are not just giving blood. You are giving our family hope. You are giving my little girl her best chance. And for that I am so very grateful.*

