



KHOL, 8

The force is strong with young Khol. At only eight years old his bravery has helped him overcome immense challenges.

Khol suffers from severe congenital heart defects that have caused his heart to develop on the right side of his body with a large hole. These defects have led to two risky open heart surgeries before he was six months old. The ultimate prognosis for these procedures is unknown. After his third heart surgery, his family is happy to say Khol is now doing better than ever.

As his mom Melissa puts it, “Khol is passionate about life. Words like ‘shouldn’t’ and ‘can’t’ haven’t stopped him from outdoor activities like ice hockey, roller hockey and soccer.” He loves to swim (in warm water) and plays with an active imagination with his two brothers. Khol is also incredibly kind and thoughtful; just last year he planned a special day with his mom revolving around activities he thought she’d like.

Knowing the unpredictability surrounding Khol’s diagnosis, his family makes an effort to live every day to the fullest and give him experiences that they view as essential to childhood like playing sports, camping and hiking. Low blood oxygen levels make every activity more challenging and require Khol to take regular rest breaks but he rarely lets anything get him down.

When Khol found out he would be granted his most heartfelt wish, his mom says he was “ECSTATIC and wanted to start planning right away”. After hearing that Disney runs Star Wars cruises, Khol was thrilled at the idea, wanting to meet all the movie characters.

Khol is participating in Heroes Challenge to help raise funds for his wish. We can’t wait to see his wish come true, and we are so grateful to your entire team for helping us make it happen!

Donate to Khol’s Heroes Challenge team online [here!](#)