

Family Works to Create Childhood Cancer License Plate

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Tom and Joanne Kral understand the pain and struggle of having a child diagnosed with cancer. Their daughter, Kristina, was seven when she died of cancer of the pancreas. Now, they are trying to help families going through similar hardships, starting with a childhood cancer license plate.

When Kristina Kral was diagnosed with cancer of the pancreas, her parents were by her side for all the chemotherapy and surgeries. However, they noticed that some of the other kids with cancer had no parents with them at all.

"They were having to choose between working more hours to try to make ends meet, or work less hours to be with their child all the time and then figure out how to pay the bills," said Tom Kral.

After their daughter passed away, the Krals knew they had to help these families. Tom and Joanne started a non-profit called Help Cancer Kids, and today they are trying to create Virginia's only Childhood Cancer Awareness Vanity Plate.

"That money would go to families around the state who are currently battling childhood cancer," said Tom Kral.

However, before that plan can come to fruition, they need some help from their fellow Virginians. For the plates to be approved, there must be 350 applications by the end of the year. Currently, they only have 70.

"We really need people to get active and get behind us and do something about it, and not just wait for it to happen," said Tom Kral.

Kristina started every day the same; when she woke up in the morning, she asked her dad what kind of fun they were going to have. The Kral family is using her bright attitude as a reminder.

"Every time we get another application, I feel like we're doing something to help make people aware of this disease and I'm doing it for her. I want her tragic consequences to have a positive outcome," said Tom Kral.

To apply for a Childhood Cancer Awareness license plate, follow the link below and click on the license plate icon.

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