

Sean James Dolan Memorial Fund

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Happy Spring Everyone!

Although today is officially the first day of Spring, it seems like Spring's already been here for quite a while! For the past few years now, we've planted many different types of flower bulbs at Sean's grave. The crocus flowers bloomed last month, his miniature daffodils are in full bloom and the hyacinths are about 2 - 3" high. By the way, since today is the first day of Spring, if you live/work near a "Rita's Water Ice," (Italian Ice) remember to get your free cup of water ice today, as is their tradition every year!

Of course, with the "drought emergency" set forth throughout most of the east coast, there's a strong possibility that I won't be cutting his grass as often as I have in previous summers. Hopefully I'm wrong and "Mother Nature" will help dump enough water so there isn't a true crisis this summer.

I made recent trip to the Bank with another deposit for SJD MF. Part of this deposit included money that I received from helping one of my home-bound neighbors. We're now officially half way to covering one seriously-ill kid to Ronald McDonald Camp for 2008! If we're able to get enough for 1.5 more "Camps" by June, we'll send a third kid to Camp this year, instead of just 2!

We're still adding to our aluminum can tab collection. This month's collection included tabs from our friends in CT, Ma, NJ, NY and of course Pa (including our "Krewson Oil" friends who dropped more containers in our mud room at the house). In fact, I'm going to put a container in the mud room, so people can drop their tabs off and keep their containers.

Of our two biggest collectors this month, one was a coworker who just started to send tabs to us. I first received a couple of inter-office mail packages from her. Then all of a sudden, I noticed there were more from her. The next thing I knew, she had sent us over 12 pounds of tabs within just a few weeks!

Our other big donor was a friend of ours who finally gave us his e-mail address and is a first-time list recipient. We met Pete when we were looking for a local restaurant to have the Graduation Dinner for our Rutgers Women's Defensive Tactics (WDT) program. That was almost 3 years ago and we've since been happily having our local Graduation dinners there. After we told Pete about our tab collection program, he said that he'd tell his buddies about what we were doing and see if they could help out. He had mentioned that one of his roommates was a schoolteacher and perhaps they could start getting people at the school to collect too.

Two weeks ago, we completed this semester's WDT program and as usual went over to the Olive Branch for our Graduation dinner. As soon as we walked in, Pete disappeared into the back room of the bar/restaurant. The next thing I knew, he came back with a huge box with almost 20-pounds of Ziplock bags filled with tabs! In addition, there were 3 clear plastic juice containers filled with tabs. One of the coolest things was how one of the bottles had a hand-crafted sign on it! I've still got to find out which school put them together, but it looks like some clever kids took a lot of time to decorate the colored paper with pictures of tabs, flowers and signs, before putting them on the containers! I know that our local Cub Scout Pack had created the small juice containers to collect their tabs, but these new ones were really nice to see!

We know that although it may not seem like much to some people, it's amazing how quickly "just one" tab from a few individuals can quickly add up to become many pounds! Eventhough I mentioned

An Angel With A Small Body, Giant Spirit

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these two people, our success is really because of the combined efforts of Everyone working together! If it wasn't for each of you (and your friends, family, etc) who send us your tabs, we wouldn't have been able to collect over 1/2 of a ton in less than 2.5 years! I can't help me but wonder how much aluminum we may have "saved" from some landfill(s).

As always, on behalf of PRMH and SJD MF, Thanks To All of You and Everyone who helps you, for thinking of and helping us to help the families of sick kids at Ronald McDonald Houses All Over. You Are All Truly Appreciated !!! ☺ ☺ Please visit Sean's Web site at <http://www.fysd.com/Sean> and even 'e-sign' his Guestbook!

God Bless You All & Keep Those Tabs Coming ! ☺

Chuck Dolan
SJD MF Administrator

*"A Hundred Years from Now . . .
it will not matter what my bank account was,
the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove . . .
But the World Might Be Different Because I Was Important*

In the Life of a Child . . . "