

Just a few letters from Kids that have been given a TayBear Teddy Bear

(I made a decision a long time ago not to publize pictures of the kids that get TayBears. You won't see them on my website. It's about the "giving" and not the "showing.")

-----Original Message-----

To: Taybear@bigfoot.com

Subject: Duffy the Bear

Taylor,

My wife and I took my son to his doctor's visit at the Yachtman Pavilion at Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, Illinois. When we got there, you were passing out your bears. My son was 12 years old and a little embarrassed to want to have a teddy bear. It's a guy thing. He said he would give it to his sister. The way he held the bear, I knew his sister would never have it.

The reason we were in the doctor's office was to find out that his cancer had returned and he was going to need more chemo and a bone marrow transplant. My son loved Duffy. He took him to bed every night. Duffy was with him during the next week of chemo. He was with him while he was home recuperating. He was with him when he went back to the hospital with an infection last Friday. My son died Monday due to complications from the infection he had. Infections are real hard on cancer kids. Duffy was right above his pillow the whole time.

I hope this email doesn't make you sad. I am not writing you to make you sad, but to let you know that Duffy brought a lot of happiness to my son, and I thank you. Like I said before, my son was at an age where it may not be cool to like a teddy bear, but I know that underneath, he loved that bear. Duffy will now be with him always.

I know that you must give out tons of bears. I know that you do so to make others happy and probably wonder if what you are doing helps. For the number of bears you give out, you may not get too many people telling you that what you do is helping them. I just wanted to let you know that at least one boy was made happy by the work you do.

Thank you,
Ryan's Dad

To: taybear@bigfoot.com

My 5 year old son is battling Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia and received your bear today from his clinic. He was delighted to get it and wanted to find you to tell you "thank you very much. You are a very sweet girl for giving me a bear." He then asked me to tell you "Happy Valentines Day" Thanks again for the bear. It really made his day.

Cathy T., mom to Jacob-5

To: taybear@bigfoot.com

Subject: I received one of your bears

Hi! My name is John N. I am 9 years old, and I am in treatment for t-cell non-hodgkins lymphoma at the Jimmy Everest Center in Oklahoma City..this is a part of the Oklahoma Children's Hospital-OU Medical Center. I was diagnosed in September 2000. I have until September 2002 to finish my treatment. I have been in remission since November of 2000.

I got one of your bears 2 weeks ago when I went for my treatment. I like the bear a LOT. I sleep with him every night. I named him Little Scotty, and I love him a WHOLE lot. He is brown and is wearing a blue TayBear t-shirt with the poem on hsi back. Anytime I have a nightmare, I squeeze Little Scotty, and he gets rid of my bad dreams.

My parents and I want you to know how very much we appreciate your kindness, your thoughtfulness, and your generosity. You are a very special person, and I'm sure your parents are as proud of you as mine are of me.

Thank you for what you're doing, Taylor. I will never forget you because I will keep Little Scotty forever.

God Bless you, John N., patient

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: My Taybear named Riley

Dear Taylor,

I just recieved a Taybear from the Peds Hem/Onc center at Sinai Childrens Hospital in Baltimore. I have been treated here for a blood disease that destroys my platelets for almost 2 years and am currently in a 4 week cycle of treatment. I love my Taybear and hugged it during the last treatment and have slept with it ever since. Ms. Mary our social worker picked a bear named "Riley" which is funny because my doctor's name is "Dr. Wiley". :-)

Thank you for Riley, I love him very much. I loved looking at your website and wanted to share my website with you. It sounds like we have the same idea about helping other kids .
www.rainbowsforkids.com

I will spread your website along, and maybe you could share mine as well. I know they are giving Taybears there and the kids love them. Thank you for caring and working so hard to make a difference.

Love, Morgan E.

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: "Benny"

Hi Taylor,

I am the mother of a 5 year old, Nathan, who was diagnosed 2 years ago with a Wilms Tumor. He went through treatment and we thought was cured. However another tumor was found in his lung in February 2002 during a routine checkup. Therefore, he is having to go through more intensive treatment.

I want to say thank you for your skill, drive and will to provide a ray of sunshine through your bears to these tough kids! Nathan received one of your bears today in the hospital. He is currently being treated at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta - Egleston at the AFLAC Cancer Center. He is inpatient today, the second of 8 inpatient stays over the next several months.

He loves the bear. It is such a special gift. He asked for a second one for his little brother and the child life specialist here who was handing them out explained that these special bears only went to the kids who were in treatment. He understood. However, he is always looking out for his little brother!

Once again, thank you for your time to care. I know how much time and effort it takes to provide donations to special kids. I myself have begun a project of making pillow cases decorated with the children's cancer gold ribbon for the kids here at the hospital. I want to make sure you know you and your helpers are appreciated!

Betsy W.

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: Thank you for the Taybear

Dear Taylor Crabtree: I received the wonderful Taybear on my first visit to the Neurofibromatosis department at the Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania last week. He helped to make me feel that the NF department is a good place to visit. Thank you for the bear. I am taking good care of him. I call him Taybear. Sometimes I pretend that he can talk. Keep up the good work. Sincerely,

Christian C. Age 7

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: Thank you!

Hi,

My name is Mislav. I'm 10 years old. I had leukemia when I was 4, and I was in Children's Hospital of Philadelphia last week for a check-up when they gave me one of your bears (Nadia). Thank you for the bear, it's really great. It's cool that being on its stomach makes it lie well on a table as well as in bed — I can put my sunglasses on it and they don't fall off! Also, I'm glad to have a soft toy because my little sister, who is 2, gets all the cute stuffed animals now, people give me books or computer games but nothing much like that anymore even though I still like them. We all think it is very cool.

Sincerely, Mislav F. (This message was sent by Mislav's mother at his request)

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: TayBear

Hey my name is Michael M. I am fourteen years old and I just wanted to say thank you for the Taybear I received it at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. I was diagnosed with Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia on September 12th of 2000. I am doing better now and I just have one more test to make sure all the cancer is gone before I am fully considered cured of my disease. I just wanted to say thank you for caring and taking the time to give bears out to cancer patients because I know it makes a difference and I know it brightened my day so I know it brightened other kids days as well as they received one of those bears that one little thing makes a big difference in their day and how they feel. Please email me when you get a chance letting me know if you received this email or not.

Thanks again! Michael M.

To: TAYBEAR@BIGFOOT.COM
Subject: TAYBEAR BECCA - RECEIVED

TAYLOR, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE BEAR! IT IS A VERY THOUGHTFUL GIFT AND MAKES MANY CHILDREN HAPPY. MY DAUGHTER RECEIVED HER BEAR TODAY FROM THE ONCOLOGY CENTER AT THE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL IN PHILADELPHIA. WE HAVE BEEN GOING THERE FOR 12 YEARS (ASHLEIGH-13 YEARS OLD) AND HAVE NEVER RECEIVED SUCH A THOUGHTFUL GIFT! NOT TO MENTION THAT YOU ARE A CHILD AND ARE DOING SOMETHING SO THOUGHTFUL! I'M SURE YOUR PARENTS ARE VERY PROUD! PLEASE THANK ALL YOUR FRIENDS! WE HOPE THAT YOU KNOW THAT YOUR GENEROSITY IS GREATLY APPRECIATED! OUR DAUGHTER HAS BEEN COLLECTING TEDDY BEARS SINCE SHE WAS BORN AND THIS IS THE FIRST ONE THAT SHE HAS THAT IS LAYING DOWN. YOU HAD A GOOD IDEA, BECAUSE WHEN YOU LAY IN BED THE BEAR CAN LAY BESIDE YOU AND KEEP YOU COMPANY AND MAKE SOME OF THOSE SAD FEELINGS GO AWAY AND THINK OF SOME HAPPY ONES. WE WILL GIVE BECCA A GOOD HOME AND WILL ALWAYS THINK OF YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS AND WHAT A GREAT JOB YOU ARE DOING AND THAT THIS KIND OF KINDNESS CAN'T BE REPAID. THANK YOU DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ENOUGH! MORE PEOPLE NEED TO BE JUST LIKE YOU! GOD BLESS!

TRACI, BILL, ASHLEIGH AND KYLEIGH

P.S. I'M SURE YOU HAVE BEARS ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY BY NOW!

To: 'taybear@bigfoot.com'
Subject: TayBear

Dear Taylor and Friends at TayBear:

Thank you so very much for the teddy bear. What a wonderful surprise! My son Andrew is only 15 months old and has cancer, a terrible disease called Neuroblastoma. Yesterday, the nurse at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia gave us a TayBear and your beautiful letter. You had made Andrew smile and laugh (and Mommy cried). Andrew now has a new special friend that he loves to hug and hold. Thank you for your kindness. May God bless you all and keep you safe! :) With hugs,

Andrew G. and Family

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: thank you

Hello! My daughter Leah received one of your bears and I just want to thank you for making her so happy. She has been going to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia since December of last year, once a month for blood work and other tests. Your bear will accompany her on all of her future visits, and help ease the stress of these visits. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and caring. May all of the happiness that you give to others come back to you many times over, and may God bless you and all of your wonderful friends who have helped you with your mission.

To: Taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: TayBear

i would like to say thank you for your bear that my 1yr old receive he really enjoys his bear it has become his favorite and he take it every were he goes. my son has sickle cell, and he really goes through so much, i just really want to thank you and keep up the good work of thinking of others. my son name is Keeshawn W.

My name is Denise W. thank you

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: thank you

Hello! *My name is Grace. I am 10 years old. I am an oncology patient. I have A.L.L. I got one of your Taybears. I love it. Thank you for your kindness and for caring about kids like me.*

Sincerely, Grace M.

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: Thank you

My name is Ashley and I'm 17. I was diagnosed with cancer at age five at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. Although I am done treatment and live a basically normal life, I return for annual check ups. Recently, my doctor moved to Sinai Hospital. Yesterday was my first visit to the pediatric center there. After the normal tests were run, which are no big deal, the nurse offered me a box of bears to pick one. At first, I declined, saying to save them for the younger, sicker children who have to spend those long nights at the hospital that are so familiar to me. She said no, told me of your story, and I took a dark brown bear, Niddia. I attend a summer camp where I am now a counselor for children undergoing treatment. This year, I will take my bear with me to share with the children. Thank you so much for your hard work and kindness, I only wish that there was a person like you when I was five. Good Luck, and keep helping kids because I know how scary hospitals are without familiar faces and friends.

Love, Ashley

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: thank you

Dear Friends,

My name is Jenna. I am four and a half years old. Today I went to see Dr. Meadows at CHOP (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia). They gave me a Teddy Bear from you named "Tosca". Thank you so much for Tosca.

God Bless You, Love, Jenna

To: taybear@bigfoot.com

Subject: A home for Zuzu...

Dear Taylor, My name is Connor and I am seven years old. I live in New Jersey. I got Zuzu yesterday at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. We are having a good time together! He kept me company when I had an MRI today. I like the poem on the back of his shirt! He is cute! I took him on the swing when I got home. I slept with him last night in the hotel. I will sleep with him every night! I can't wait to take him to school to show to my friends! Thank you very much!
Connor

PS—Connor dictated this to his mom. He has an inoperable brain tumor that gets monitored every six months to watch for any growth that may lead to chemotherapy and/or radiation. So far, so good! He is very excited to have a new companion to accompany him now—as the nurses are suggesting that on his next visit he try the MRI without sedation. No doubt Zuzu will be of great comfort to him! Thanks again for all your wonderful work!

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: Paige

Dear Taylor, My daughter Paige is 8 years old and has cancer. About a year ago she got one of your bears. It is a very special bear to her because it is so soft and squishy she can sleep with it comfortably. I didn't know about your business until today. Thank you so much for all that you do. You have made very many sick children happy.

Suzanne P.

To: Taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: TayBear: Pooder Bear

My daughter adopted Pooder Bear today. Apparently you gave some bears to Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. I understand you made jewelry and sold the jewelry to earn the money to purchase the bears for patients? That is soooo noble. Hannah was diagnosed with Leukemia on December 24th (does that day sound familiar?). She is doing very well, her prognosis is excellent. We are actually very fortunate and blessed that Hannah has the kind of Leukemia that she has. Hannah has had to come to the hospital 10 times this year. She has had 9 blood transfusions, 2 platelet transfusions. She has a two year protocol, which means she will be on chemotherapy for two years. People like you make this monster bearable. I cannot thank you enough for adding happiness and joy to what could be depressing and sad. Thank-you again you are really appreciated.

Sincerely, Molli J.

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: Thank you for the TayBear

Hello Taylor

Thank you for the tay bear, Bailey likes his new home. that was so sweet of you . thanks so much you keep up the good work .

From Thelma

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: Emma

I wanted to thank you for Binki Bear who was given to my daughter last week. She's a 2 year old who was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma right after her first birthday. We haven't gotten very far with what treatment she's had, but she's doing very well. She really loved her bear. We're new to the San Diego area, and we just moved here from Hawaii. We see Dr. Horspool at the Naval Hospital at Balboa. He told me about your program and I must say I'm very impressed. I saw the e-mail address on bear's tag, and wanted to let you know we appreciate your effort. We haven't updated our webpage about Emma since before we moved in August (althoug we left long ago, we just got our new house on Monday!) but here's the address if you'd like to see what Emma looks like and learn a little about her story. It's at www.staticdead.com/emma if you happen to have some time. Again, thank you very much for the bear. It's now her favorite traveling bear and we always take it in the car.

Thank you, Jennifer

To: taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: thank you

DEAR TAYBEAR I WANT TO THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.MY SON KENNETH RECIVED ONE OF YOUR BEARS FROM DR HORSPOOL AT BALBOA NAVAL HOSPITAL. YOUR KINDNESS MEANS A LOT TO ME MY SON HAS BEEN THOUGH A LOT HE IS ONLY 17 MONTHES OLD. AND HAS WHAT IS KNOWN AS DIAMOND BLACKFAN ANEMIA HIS BODY DOES NOT MAKE NEW BLOOD CELLS BUT THE MEDCINE HE IS ON SEEMS TO BE WORKING FOR NOW.NOW HE HAS FRIEND HE HOLD IT AND TAKES THE BEAR WHERE EVER WE GO I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO EXPRESS MY THANKS TO YOU YOU MAKE MY SON SMILE EVER TIME HE SEE HIS BEAR AND FOR THAT I WILL BE FOREVER GREATFUL TO YOU THANK YOU AGAIN

MELISSA G.

To: Taybear@bigfoot.com
Subject: THANK YOU

Hi my name is Dakota and I am a 3 1/2 year old boy who LOVES the Brody bear you made for me. Dr. Horspool is my doctor and he is going to help me get better. With my bear things are not as scary Thank you for my bear he is very special to me. Love Dakota

Thank you for thinking of kids that are less fortunate than you. Some of us adults could learn a lesson from you. Brody brings a smile to Dakota's face. He knows people do care and he feels special. I thank you for that. Please know what you are doing for all these kids means so much more than words can say. I can't say thank you enough. keep up the wonderful work you do and know that it does not go unappreciated. Thank you very much feel free to e-mail me back I would love to hear from you.

Shannon J. (Dakota's mom)