Alexis Swift Scholarship Fund

VFTH

3/30/17

 A scholarship has been established at WKU that pays tribute to a Greenwood High School graduate who died suddenly last year from a seizure.

The money for the scholarship has come together in a unique and healing way as Amy Bingham explains in this week’s View from the Hill.

Alexis Swift was diagnosed with a seizure disorder in seventh grade. She also endured two back surgeries stemming from an accident in the swimming pool.

 But none of that deterred this bright young athlete who’se life ended much too soon.

 “She was fun (laughs). She was a fun kid. She was always having fun at the pool”

Angie Swift is describing her daughter Alexis.

 “She was very determined to do things and not let her back surgery or seizure disorder hold her back. “

An avid swimmer, a life guard, a recent high school graduate.

All that changed on August 19th, 2016.

 “I decided to go get a haircut, run some errands, I brought some lunch back for us. Went to give her her lunch and found her. She had seized and passed away possibly early in the morning.”

Just over seven months later, the Swifts say it still often doesn’t seem real.

 “You see all the people on Facebook and their kids are away at college then you start seeing them coming home for break, it just seems like she’s supposed to come home too sometimes you know?”

 “We’re grateful for everything you did on the basketball court.”

Out of tragedy comes something good. The Alexis Swift Memorial Scholarship funded in part by her cousin Coulter’s skills on the basketball court.

 “Jeromiah said I’ll give you a dollar for every point, steal, rebound or assist, anything you do, I’ll give you a dollar.”

Clips

By the end of the season, Coulter had netted 108 dollars.

Word spread on social media that he was donating the money to his cousin’s scholarship and the amount grew to more than two thousand dollars.

 “I get emotional every time we talk about this because I just can’t tell you how good people have been to us.”

Now that generosity will benefit a student athlete at WKU for years go come.

 “We just want to say thanks”

While Coulter keeps memories of his cousin close….

And keeps his sights set on a future in basketball.

 “It made me feel proud of myself and makes me want to work harder.”

Alexis Swift was an organ donor and her mother says she has already helped people in 13 states including California where a young man received her heart valve.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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