

Kerry Harvey's family raise over £1000 for Pancreatic Cancer Action at local supermarket

Thursday 8 May, 2014

Driven on by her inspirational courage, family and friends of Kerry Harvey took part in a two day fundraiser at their local supermarket in Birmingham to honour her memory.

On April 25th and 26th, the group including Kerry's mum Eileen Harvey, packed bags and ran a stall at The Sainsbury's Superstore in Acocks Green, Birmingham.

Over £1,100 was raised for Pancreatic Cancer Action, a charity Kerry worked closely with to raise the profile of pancreatic cancer, which included being the face of a controversial advertising campaign that attracted worldwide attention.

Since the 24-year-old from Acocks Green died from pancreatic cancer on 22nd February, numerous supporters across the UK have stepped up to ensure her awareness efforts and legacy live on.

In her short life, Kerry raised awareness for both pancreatic cancer and the desperate need for more funding for the fifth biggest cancer killer in the media, including two appearances on ITV's This Morning, interviews with national newspapers and magazines.

Kerry Harvey's fighting spirit shone through as she tried to defy the terrible prognosis – just a three per cent chance of survival, which is the lowest of all 22 common cancers.

Kerry sadly lost her battle with pancreatic cancer just ten months after diagnosis. Eileen Harvey said: "Kerry was courageous and meant a lot to everyone. Ultimately she accepted it was too late for her to win her battle, but we are all proud of what she achieved in a really short space of time. We are determined that her legacy lives on.

"I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who took part in this fundraiser as well as to Sainsbury's Acocks Green," adds Eileen. "They really supported our drive to raise awareness and funds in store."

Eileen and Kathleen, Kerry's aunt, are planning two more bag-packing events at other supermarkets as well as a fundraising event in August.

Pancreatic Cancer Action is committed to working towards earlier diagnosis of the disease so that surgery, currently the only cure, is made available to the sufferer.

Ali Stunt, Founder of Pancreatic Cancer Action, said: "We are very grateful to Eileen, and Kerry's family and friends for giving their time to support Pancreatic Cancer Action. They are still dealing with the enormous loss of Kerry who was an inspirational young woman determined to raise awareness despite being very ill herself.

"As a charity, we rely on the generosity of individuals to help us continue our vital work. These funds enable us to continue research into early diagnosis and raise awareness of pancreatic cancer."

For more information on pancreatic cancer and its symptoms, please visit www.pancreaticcanceraction.org or call 0303 040 1770.

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