



Asthma
Foundation
Queensland



Christmas will be different in our household this year, because on 2 July, our world was turned upside down.

Our eldest son went to the toilet and was sick. A couple of seconds later he collapsed. It was very fast - he wasn't in pain.

Our little boy was gone in the space of two minutes....

Bryn was just a 'normal eight year old kid' with a passion for the outdoors and there was no real indication as to the ruthlessness of the asthma attack that would take his life.

The severity of the attack was even more of a shock because Bryn, who had previously been diagnosed as a severe asthmatic, had experienced fewer attacks through this year's winter than in previous years.

In the past, we have needed to take him three or four times to the hospital. Sometimes he would be there overnight and sometimes he would be there for days.

Our family laid Bryn to rest on 9 July this year and we approached the Foundation after making a decision to tell our story in a bid to increase community awareness of the seriousness of asthma.

Asthma is something not to brush aside, people sometimes say 'oh it's just asthma' or they downplay it but we can tell you it is a lot more serious than people think.

We urge you to remember Bryn this Christmas and give a gift to Asthma Foundation Queensland's 'Bryn Epiha Memorial Fund'.

After recently meeting with Asthma Foundation Queensland, we have asked that funds donated through this Appeal go towards paediatric asthma research.

Asthma affects 1 in 8 children and if some good can come of our pain and loss by bringing us

Please turn over

I would like to donate to the 'Asthma Foundation Bryn Epiha Memorial Fund'

Here is my **tax deductible** donation:

\$25 \$50 \$100 My choice \$

My cheque/money order payable to **Asthma Foundation Queensland** is enclosed

Please debit my Visa Mastercard Amex

Card Number:

Cardholder's Name:

Expiry Date:

Signature:

Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible



Asthma
Foundation
Queensland

Please return your donation in the Reply Paid envelope provided or mail to:
Asthma Foundation Queensland
PO Box 394, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
Phone donations: **1800 645 130**
Web donations: **asthmafoundation.org.au**

ACN 009 737 704 ABN 31 525 925 917

closer to finding a cure, then we, as Bryn's parents would be forever grateful for your donation.

Research and education is vital.

If other people can learn from what our family has had to go through, then it has been worthwhile telling our story and raising awareness.

Only a small percentage of people die from asthma. But part of that small percentage is our boy Bryn.

It's time to take asthma seriously.

Basil & Corina

Basil and Corina Epiha

A note from our CEO...

The team at Asthma Foundation Queensland hears stories like this all too frequently. Sadly our survey of people with asthma, the largest undertaken in Australia, confirms that many are dismissive of asthma as a condition thinking the fight has been won. The Epiha Family story is a sad one. As a father I can not imagine not having my children with me at Christmas and I am so grateful to Basil and Corina for sharing their story. Their vision in establishing a fund to honour Bryn and their courage to share this story at Christmas is so affirming of our work.

Our commitment to you as a donor and the Epiha family is to continue to provide education, awareness and support - now and in the future.

Christmas is a time to be with family and friends and enjoy each other's company. Last Christmas no one would have predicted that our State and homes would be so badly impacted by floods and cyclones. Many lost so much and many continue to do it hard. As Australians we gave deeply to many worthy causes in hard economic times. My wish this Christmas is that you can extend your support to the Asthma Foundation as we remember Bryn. You can help save lives by donating to the Bryn Epiha Memorial Fund. Please help us end the year on a positive note to ensure that all that can be done **will** be done to support those living with asthma.

Mark Brooke

Return your donation with a message of hope



Proud little Bryn in his school uniform

This year your generous donations have:

- funded a new PhD student
- supported three new Asthma Research Programs
- Assisted in running 47 workshops
- trained over 10,000 teachers, aged care workers, and
- funded a new website in partnership with New South Wales and Northern Territory.

You can help achieve more by donating to our Bryn Epiha Memorial Fund.

PO Box 394 Fortitude Valley Q 4006
Phone (07) 3252 7677
Email info@asthmaqlld.org.au
Asthma Assist 1800 645 130
www.asthmafoundation.org.au

My message of hope for people with asthma

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The messages we receive will be compiled and sent to the Epiha family. Your message may also be used as inspiration to others through various Foundation resources.