

Sue Burd

Mother of Jeff, Who Died of Meningococcal Disease
Marlton, New Jersey

Sue Burd's son, Jeff, was a motivated high school student and avid hockey player when his life was suddenly cut short due to meningococcal disease, a serious bacterial infection that is potentially vaccine-preventable. Jeff was feeling a little run down but thought he just had the same cold many of his family members were experiencing. However, three days later, Jeff's temperature skyrocketed to 104 degrees and he complained of feeling weak and uncomfortable. Later that afternoon, Jeff suffered a seizure. Sue called 911 and within five minutes of arriving at the hospital, doctors confirmed he had meningitis. Despite the rapid diagnosis, Jeff lost his battle with meningococcal disease.

“Many people do not realize how dangerous and deadly meningococcal disease is until it hits them, and its devastating impact is indescribable,” Sue said. “Through our awareness efforts, we hope to save other families from experiencing the heartbreak we felt due to meningitis.”