

An incredible journey

Photographer with local roots shares son's story of hope and healing

Story by JEN CALHOUN

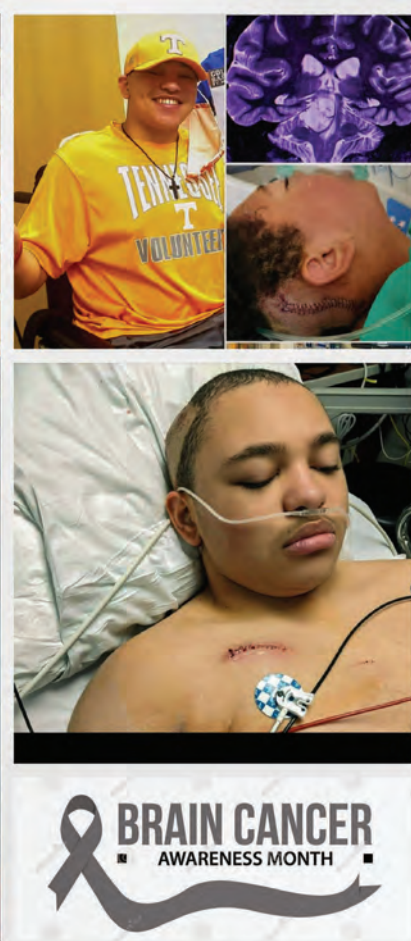
Miranda Harris describes her son, Mykah, as a gentle giant with a big, warm smile, a full heart and a calming way. By the age of 15, Mykah stood 6 feet tall and dominated his high school's lacrosse and football teams. Despite his drive, he always offered his hand to any player who fell.

So, in September 2019, when her son's routine physical turned into an MRI and an emergency flight to a neurosurgeon in Memphis, Miranda fell to the floor. Doctors discovered a tumor the size of a navel orange in Mykah's brain, and they needed to operate immediately. A second later, she turned calm, however. "I'm a Christian woman, but I'd never heard God speak before," she says. "But I tell you, even with all the tragedy and heartache and fear I had, I felt a peace in my soul. God was talking to me."

LIFE OR DEATH

Now, three years after the initial surgery in Memphis, Mykah lives with minimal functioning on the left side of his body. Last spring, he graduated with honors and used a walker to receive his high school diploma as 10,000 people cheered him on. He now attends Northeast State Community College. The tumor, which is of a type that grows back in 90% of patients, is still at bay. Miranda is determined he will be among the 10% of patients without a recurrence.

Miranda, a Scott County native who currently lives in Kingsport, has continued running her award-winning photography business, In a Mother's Eye Unique



Miranda's son, Mykah, continues to build a vibrant life, years after doctors removed a tumor the size of an orange from his brain.


Photography. She travels back to Scott County often for family visits and work while continuing her fight for Mykah's health and well-being.

Her Facebook page, Prayers for Mykah, has documented the family's journey from the start. It's also given her access to a 7,000-plus-member army of followers who pray with her. Followers span the globe, but many are from home. "There are a lot of good prayer warriors in Scott County," she says.

THE BATTLE FOR BETTER

Miranda's never-say-never attitude doesn't hurt, either. In recent years, she reached out to physicians across the country and fought for her son to be implanted with a brain-stimulating machine that helps him move better — a first for a juvenile in the U.S.

Still, it takes a toll. "Sometimes, I wish it wasn't my child this happened to," she

says. "Then I feel bad about that. If not us, then who? We're fighters." 

In a Mother's Eye Unique Photography

Miranda Fawn Harris is an award-winning professional photographer in Scott County and Kingsport with nearly 20 years of experience and a gift for capturing emotion. To learn more, visit the In a Mother's Eye Unique Photography Facebook and Instagram pages or her website at inamotherseye.com.

To see Mykah's full story and keep up with the latest developments, follow the Facebook page, Prayers for Mykah.

Photography by Miranda Fawn Harris with In a Mother's Eye Unique Photography