

Mark May update 10/11

Contributed by Administrator
Sunday, 12 October 2008
Last Updated Sunday, 12 October 2008

Stacey's latest update from Mark's CarePages site:
October 11, 2008

Mark has made tremendous progress. From the first days he started with therapy last week to now has been a huge difference. His vision deficit continues to improve everyday and Mark is more like himself everyday. He was even able to start reading to the kids again this week. Exciting times!

We had been scheduled to meet the Oncology doctors in Iowa City this week but we ended up postponing the appointment to allow time to meet with doctors here in Dubuque. The thought of driving 3+ hours 5 days a week for 6 to 6 ½ weeks of radiation would really take a toll. Mark's Occupational Therapist voiced his concern for Mark earlier this week. We made some calls this week and found out that the facility they have in Dubuque – the Wendt Cancer Center is very capable they have very new equipment, they have experience with working with brain tumor patients and they have 2 radiation oncology doctors on staff. We have an appointment with both Dr. Hermann, Hematologist Oncologist and Dr. Baer, Radiation Oncologist, on Tuesday morning. If the meetings go well with the Dr's we will most likely do the treatments in Dubuque versus Iowa City. Another advantage of doing the treatment in Dubuque would be being available to continue Mark's therapy sessions with Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy. Mark's brother Gary left yesterday, what a huge help he was while he was here. He did many house projects and lots of yard work. We feel very lucky to have had him here and realize the sacrifice he made leaving his own family for two weeks so thank you to his wife Lisa and children: Natalie, Dillon & Jacob for letting Gary come and help us out. Zack & Zoey were sad to see Uncle Gary go. Zack & Zoey along with Mark and I are looking forward to Mark's sister, Stacey arriving late tonight. We look forward to getting everything confirmed this week with the next steps in Mark's treatment – please say some prayers that we are able to come to a decision that works best for us and will give Mark the quality and compassionate care we are looking for.