

Dear Friend,

Have you ever wondered what Double H Ranch means to a child?

Ask a camper or a parent, and you'll learn that a week at Double H is an unforgettable experience.

Time spent here gives hope, strength, and a lasting joy.

This is immeasurably important for children with serious and life-threatening illnesses.

The enclosed greeting card set is a small token of thanks for your past support. Without you, these life-changing experiences would not be possible for our campers and their families.

We'd like to tell you about one of those families.

Annette is the mother of Emily, one of our campers. Emily was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (a cancer of the blood and bone marrow) at age seven.

Emily subsequently underwent 796 straight days of treatment that included regular spinal taps, monthly steroid injections, and daily doses of chemotherapy.

We asked Annette to tell us about Emily's diagnosis and her experiences at Double H Ranch...

*Emily's cancer diagnosis was a complete surprise. Our lives were suddenly turned upside down. She immediately started treatment. It was grueling.*

*We learned about Double H while Emily was in the clinic. But there was an obstacle: me.*

*My children are everything to me, and my first thought was, "There is NO WAY I am letting my seven-year-old go to sleepaway camp! I wouldn't let a healthy seven-year-old go, much less one with a serious illness."*

*We went to a family weekend to check it out, and we were blown away. The staff made Emily feel like she was the most important person in the world. It was amazing to see the love and concern they showered on her.*

*But I still wasn't convinced that Emily should go to camp. Then I thought about it and realized that she had already been through more than most adults face, and that it was the right decision to let her go.*

*(over, please)*



Double H – Hole in the Woods Ranch

97 Hidden Valley Road · Lake Luzerne, NY 12846 · [www.doublehbranch.org](http://www.doublehbranch.org)

*Emily has two siblings—Nick and Maddie. They are seven years older, and there was enough room for one of them to spend the week with her. Nick won the lottery and went to camp with Emily.*

*When I picked them up at the end of the week, what I saw was indescribable. Emily was so confident and empowered.*

*I asked her why she was so happy, and she said, "I wasn't the only bald girl at camp."*

Take a moment to think what that experience meant to Emily. How it uplifted her. Gave her strength. Changed the way she thought about herself.

Emily's story is deeply moving. What's even more remarkable is that hundreds of other campers have similar experiences at Double H each year.

As you can imagine, caring for our campers is expensive. We purchase special equipment, prepare appropriate foods, have a staff of qualified nurses and physicians on call, and on and on.

It costs about \$2,100 to care for each camper for one week. We host about 900 campers each year. And we don't charge a penny because we believe that money has no place in what we do.

That's why the support of kindhearted people like you is absolutely essential.

### **Will you make a donation to Double H Ranch today?**

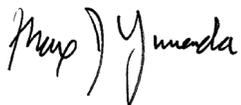
Your gift will help ensure that future campers have a life-changing experience like Emily's.

No matter what you do today, please use the enclosed holiday gift cards to spread some good cheer. Share them with your loved ones so they can learn about Double H Ranch. Each card you send will let one more person know about us, and that's no small thing.

The gift cards are also meant to evoke the warmth and joy of the holiday season. We know that our campers feel these things—and more—when they come to Double H Ranch.

Double H Ranch is a special haven. It's a place of hope, friendship, and healing. Please help us make sure there is a space for all who wish to come.

Thank you for your kindness,



Max Yurenda  
CEO/Executive Director



**Your support is a gift of hope to  
Double H campers like Emily!**

P.S. If you have the means, please consider becoming a sponsor. A gift of \$350 sponsors a child for a day, while a donation of \$2,100 covers expenses for a whole week. There are other levels available. To become a sponsor, simply check the appropriate box on the enclosed Contribution Reply and provide the necessary information.