

The Brain Cancer Reason for “The B Team” 2008 Carlsbad Marathon

Carlsbad, CA – January 20, 2008 – “The last few weeks have been very difficult to deal with. When my father was diagnosed with brain cancer last spring, we all thought he would be able to fight back. He died before Christmas, and last weekend we had a Memorial Day for him,” says Kimberly Wilson. “My father loved was one of those ‘do as I say, not as I do’ kind of people. He lead by example, and I am running in the 2008 Carlsbad Marathon to make a point, just like he taught me.”

After a quiet moment, Wilson continues. “It is difficult to explain exactly how I feel now, except I understand the need to reach out and help others facing the same vacuum, the same loss when someone they know dies of brain cancer. My sister, Nikki, and I have created ‘The B Team’ and will run with 12 other people, all interested in raising at least \$5,000 for the National Brain Tumor Foundation. These dollars will go towards Research about GBM and Patient Service Programs.

“My father was only 57 years old. Had been diagnosed 10 years ago, there would have been no treatment for him. In a sad way, that it happened now, provided us with an extra 7 months of his life to share, because of the progress in research. We look at the Carlsbad Marathon as a starting point for ‘The B Team’ and plan to sign up for others across California!”

“What Kimberly Wilson is doing is so very important, not only to those diagnosed with brain tumors but for their friends and family. She truly knows the sense of disconnection and frustration people experience when trying to understand and help,” says Bob Rybicki, Executive Director of the National Brain Tumor Foundation.

The number of people diagnosed with brain tumors is overwhelming. Every day in the United States, 500 adults and children are diagnosed with brain tumors. Understanding that there are over 120 different types of the disease, and the treatment for each is complicated, based on where in the brain it is found. Tumors that spread from cancer in another part of the body to the brain affect 15% to 20% of all cancer patients.

When Kimberly was asked what was the most important lesson she learned, she smiled immediately. “There are many things in life we cannot prepare for or foresee. As long as there are good people in your life, people whom you love and who love you back, you can get through it all. Ultimately, the way we deal with any ending, is one we create. I love my father, and plan to help others, and that is what matters.”

To help Kimberly Wilson raise dollars for NBTF, visit her website at www.firstgiving.com/thebteam or call her directly at 858.336.5951.

NBTF is a nationwide non-profit organization serving people whose lives are affected by brain tumors. Since 1981, over \$5 million dollars have been directed to brain tumor research. To learn more, visit www.braintumor.org, e-mail nbtf@braintumor.org or call 800.934.CURE.

#