



PEDIATRIC CANCER FOUNDATION



2007 Annual Journal



On November 8, 2005, Gina and Tom Rich were blessed with a beautiful baby boy, Tyler Thomas. Three months later, Tyler was diagnosed with Retinoblastoma, a rare form of cancer with only 350 to 400 new cases diagnosed each year. The Rich family was told that 50 percent of the children who have this type of cancer internationally will die within a year. Tyler's treatment has consisted of four rounds of chemotherapy in three months. The Richs are convinced that the doctors that Pediatric Cancer Foundation support saved their child's life. With that impetus, they have dedicated themselves to supporting our Foundation.

As part of their effort to support PCF, the Rich family created a Walkathon Team this past April as part of our 12th Annual Walkathon in New York City. The team was called: Team Tyler. They enlisted hundreds of their friends and supporters to come to the Walkathon. Tom and Gina encouraged their teammates to raise a minimum of \$100 each for our organization. Team Tyler collected over \$20,000. Despite the wind and rain, the Rich family braved the stormy weather and demonstrated to their team, and all of the other walkers, the power of family, love and commitment. Thanks to the brilliant soul inspiring lights of Gina, Tom and Tyler, our 12th Annual Walkathon was our most spirited and financially successful Walkathon ever.

Tom and Gina also were the keynote speakers at PCF's White Gala, held in July in New York City. Their speech was both heart-warming and inspirational. With tears in their eyes and an emotional tremor in Tom's voice, they recalled the trauma of the past months dealing with Tyler's diagnosis and treatment. They also felt that PCF emotionally, as well as medically, helped them through this difficult time because they were able to channel their energy into helping raise money for other sick children, as their own child was cautiously getting better.

It is with deepest gratitude and admiration that we dedicate our 2007 Annual Journal to the Rich family.