



“We don’t have time for the gurney ...”

Dear Ann:

The worst storm of the winter had just begun. With my husband and older son outside shoveling, I made a grilled cheese sandwich for my 8-year-old son Kevin, as I had done 100 times before. Suddenly my son approached me with itchy, blinking eyes and in a funny voice said “my tongue feels funny”. Kevin had been diagnosed with a mild peanut allergy the year before so I knew the signs of an allergic reaction, I picked up the phone to call 911—**but even as I talked to the operator, I could tell this was unlike anything we had experienced.**

We waited as Kevin drifted in and out of consciousness. Despite the snow, the Brighton Volunteer Ambulance arrived quickly and I wouldn’t learn until later how valuable each of those moments were. When the EMTs made it inside, Kevin’s blood pressure was dropping drastically.

I still remember the Paramedic picking up my son, and telling the two EMT’s with the gurney, “we don’t have time” as she went running through the snow with Kevin in her arms.

As I sat in the front seat of the ambulance, I heard the most terrifying sound I could imagine, the Paramedic’s voice saying “we’re losing him” followed by the unmistakable thump as they used paddles on him as his heart stopped. This happened once more on the drive and when we arrived at the ER, **my eight-year-old was alive but in a coma.**

After four excruciating hours of wondering what would happen next, my son woke up. **The doctors praised Brighton Volunteer Ambulance,** telling me that there is no way my son would be here if BVA had not been so efficient and well trained. Kevin would have died before we reached the ER.

My son is now a sophomore in college where he plays lacrosse and is studying to be a teacher. We came to learn that he has a severe allergy to processed cheese. I am so proud of my son for the young man he is becoming and I am grateful for BVA every time he celebrates a new milestone.

I am honored to share my story with you, my neighbor, in order to help Brighton Volunteer Ambulance raise the money they need to keep saving lives. I’ve become a donor myself, not just because I am grateful that they saved my son, but because I know they can save my neighbors’ lives too. Without Brighton Volunteer Ambulance, some patients wouldn’t make it.

Sincerely,

Judy Keehn,

Brighton Community Member

A Message From BVA President, Dan McCue

In Brighton, we are fortunate that our BVA providers have the resources, skills and commitment to serve our community. Tax support and insurance reimbursements cover a portion of our expenses, but we still rely on donations from you, our neighbors, to provide the equipment and training necessary to save lives and answer the more than 100,000 emergency medical calls we have received over the past 30 years.

Please send in your donation today! A donation of \$50 could provide a patient like Kevin with the medications and equipment that were necessary to save his life.



Thank you, Ann! Your donation will help people in Brighton, like Kevin, receive the immediate, comprehensive medical care and transportation they need when an emergency arises.

Please accept my gift of:

- ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$75
- ☐ \$150
- ☐ \$ _____ (other)

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Ann [REDACTED]

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