I wish to swim with sea turtles

Memphis, 9
Genetic disorder

Memphis is a selfless 9-year-old girl who, despite her difficult circumstances, has refused to let it stop her from giving back to her community. Memphis was diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder, forcing her to undergo open-heart surgery in May of 2017. Leading up to this, Memphis' condition comprised of heart tumors known as myxomas. Though these tumors are benign, cardiac complications are still part of Memphis' life.

Memphis has dedicated her time and energy to serving two local foster shelters with foster children and homeless youth. On top of that, she also runs a food pantry from her home, serving her local community in Springfield, MO. Understanding the impact of care during a difficult time, Memphis has held over 50 bake sales for local children or programs that help children who are sick. With as much sacrifice as Memphis has made for others, it's hard to remember how young she really is—not even 10-years-old.

It's no doubt that Memphis has turned a challenging time in her life as an opportunity to serve others. She has a Facebook page called "Memphis on a Mission" and loves to help out local organizations in any way that she can. She even spends holiday mornings at the Boys & Girls Town Resource Center with local foster children.

When Memphis isn't volunteering, she loves to play soccer. She is also an outdoor girl, loving to spend her days at the farm or at the creek.

When asked if she had a specific quote in regard to their daughter's journey, Memphis' mother stated:

> "Our daughter spends so much time loving on our community and serving, it is beyond difficult to see her having to sit this time out while sick with so many unknowns. We try as a family to simply leave this Earth better then we found it each and every day, we pray she will forever know she is as loved as she has loved."