Tribute to Little Angel: Janvi Patel

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Chicago IL: Janvi was granted her angel wings on January 14, 2012 following a brief illness. Makar Sankranti is a major harvest festival and consider to be divine day for Hindu culture. Her final days were spent surrounded by family and friends. Janvi had touched so many in some small way throughout her short, yet very memorable, life. Janvi's life would seem too short to many; however, those who came in touch by her understood that the quality of existence far exceeds the quantity of time in which one lives. Her gentle smile could melt the hearts of those around her. Though she never spoke a word her voice and thoughts could always be heard.

Janvi was born on September 26th 2001 with a rare genetic disorder resulting in mental and physical handicap since birth. This made her appear frail. Despite these obstacles, she possessed strength, perseverance, and an ability to overcome incredible odds. Sweet, funny, friendly, spunky...these are but a few words that come to mind when we think about Janvi.

Janvi, with her chubby cheeks, pigtails, endearing personality and beautiful eyes, immediately won everyone's hearts. With her courage she led us to believe that each day is a blessing and an opportunity to create lasting memories. She could spend hours cuddling close to those she loved so much.

She enjoyed music, sleeping late, and reading stories. She loved the color red and listening to the sounds of children and especially laughter which would make her smile. She loved outdoors, watching the sunsets and listening to the wind in the trees. With Janvi's passing we remind ourselves and others that her life is one to be celebrated. Although we will miss her every day, especially her winning smile, she will forever remain in our hearts. Through her Joyful Amazing Nice Vibrant Incredible teachings about life, we were able to create wonderful memories and it has been a privilege to be her parents (Manish and Jaimini) and paternal grandparents (Arvindbhai Patel and Shardaben Patel). She also received dedicated long term care from her maternal grandparents, Ashwinbhai Patel and Dharmistaben Patel.

Janvi leaves behind many wonderful caregivers that provided love and support that enhanced her quality of life. Her love extends to her wonderful caregivers like Ingrid Thompson, NSSED Coordinator of Health Services; Alison Fansler, Nssed Els Teacher; and Heidi Rabe, Nssed Speech and Language Therapist amongst others. Because of their continual dedication, love and support, Janvi was able to survive some of her toughest medical challenges. She will be dearly missed by all her special caregivers.

Janvi is survived by her loving Parents, Paternal and Maternal Grand Parents and a large extended caring loving family composed of 111 members. Over 300 family friends and caregivers attended her traditional Hindu Cremation on Tuesday January 17, 2012.

Photographs and Press release by: Asian Media USA

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