

Miles With Maeve

UPSer Garrett McAlister keeps his daughter's legacy alive



On March 4, 2015, Garrett McAlister, I.T. Solutions Manager in the Information Technology (I.T.) Supply Chain Solutions (SCS) Portfolio, and his wife, Christine McAlister, suffered a loss they never would have imagined.

The couple learned that at 37 weeks their baby, Maeve Evalyn McAlister, didn't have a heartbeat. With their ordinary yet wonderful pregnancy thus far, it was an outcome they never could have predicted.

As soon as they were told the news, they were advised to go to the hospital where nurses induced labor. Garrett and Christine along with their family discussed how impossible life seemed without Maeve. However, together they sought ways in which they could not only cope, but also keep their baby's legacy alive.

Garrett knew that in order to help manage the grief of losing a child, he would need to rely on the strength and determination. He also knew that he wanted find a way to use his talents to help others overcome their own impossible obstacles.

“As I sat in the hospital on March 4, I was reminded of the triumph over what once seemed like an insurmountable goal of finishing an Ironman triathlon,” Garrett said. “That goal was only achieved after thousands of miles training in the pool and on endless roads. I wondered how I could use that dedication in order to help myself and others coping with life without our babies,” Garrett added.

That’s when Garrett and Christine created Miles With Maeve. It is a combination of Garrett’s lifelong passion for competitive swimming and decade of experience in triathlons and fundraising. Miles With Maeve’s mission is to assist other hurting families. Miles With Maeve offers athletes training in exchange for fundraising support to benefit organizations comforting loss families.

On June 18, Garrett completed a 12.5 mile swim in Key West, Florida, to raise awareness and funds to support infancy loss charities. Miles With Maeve has raised thousands of dollars for the pregnancy loss charities.

The charities Miles With Maeve support are:

- **Molly Bears** creates custom teddy bears weighted to the child’s birth weight
- **Faith’s Lodge** provides one-of-a-kind retreat center for families dealing with their loss
- **Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep** provides professional quality remembrance photography in hospitals nationwide
- **Little Angel Gowns** makes burial gowns out of wedding dresses



“Life without my daughter Maeve once seemed impossible, like many of my athletic goals first did. This is a way to remember the babies who’ve been lost, celebrate life, and offer hope to hurting families,” Garrett said.

The McAlister family is coping through their loss every day and with triumphs like Miles With Maeve, there’s no doubt that there will be more to come. For instance, the great news that Maeve will have a little baby sister to look out for on August 21. Congratulations to Garrett and Christine on their pregnancy!

For more information on Miles With Maeve, visit MilesWithMaeve.org (<http://mileswithmaeve.org/>) and find out how you can support the McAlister family and many others today.

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