

In 2000, I met a wonderful lady, Jennifer. The first time that I went to her house, I met Blake, her baby boy who had just turned 5-years-old. Jennifer told me that he had a rare genetic disorder called Cornelia DeLange Syndrome. I had no idea what that was, I just knew that he was very small and couldn't speak much. When I walked in, Blake was playing in a small blue car and had the biggest smile I had ever seen. Jennifer told me Blake didn't take to people very well and not to get my feelings hurt if he ignored me. I watched him; watch me and I started talking to him. He got out of the car and came running to me. He was so cute. Jennifer was amazed. She said that she had never seen him do that before.

That's when my life changed and he stole my heart. Then, Jennifer, Blake and I got married. I started that year going to Special Olympics events with Blake and Jennifer. It was so much fun seeing how happy all the athletes were. I was introduced to the Law Enforcement Torch Run, I had never heard of it and it peaked my interest.

We went to Wichita, Kansas to the International Law Enforcement Torch Run conference where I learned what the torch run did and represented. That's how it all began for me.

Every year I set a goal of what I will do and how much money I will attempt to raise for Special Olympics.

This has become a challenge for me to beat the year before. **I challenge you as an individual to set your own goal and go for it.**

Remember, that it's for the Special Olympics athletes and you can afford a little time to ask for funds to support them.

You will be surprised at the generosity of people as well as the kindness of strangers.

I still love going to the events and will continue as long as I can. I have so much fun and the families that I meet are amazing.

If you would like to get involved in Special Olympics Oklahoma and if there is anything I can do to assist you on that journey, please contact me at 405-620-3484.

Your partner,

Jim Fisher

Lieutenant, Oklahoma Highway Patrol (Retired)