

# HERO® Allograft

Made From the Most Precious Resource on Earth

**A portion of the proceeds from the sale of Hero Allograft are donated to charities benefitting children with serious medical conditions.**



Dr. Steven Gilman; Anna, Wish Kid; Dr. Brian Dalton

**Spinal Elements®, Dr. Steven Gilman and Dr. Brian Dalton of Tri-State Neurological Surgeons, and the Make-A-Wish® Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia Chapter celebrate local wish.**

Dr. Brian Dalton and Dr. Steven Gilman are the first Pennsylvania surgeons to partner with Spinal Elements' National Hero Allograft Charity Program and establish a legacy of granting wishes to Erie-area Kids

ERIE, PA - March 13, 2018 - Anna, a 7-year-old Erie-area Make-A-Wish kid, was surprised with a wish of a lifetime. This April, she and her family traveled to Orlando, Florida on a special Theme Park Wish granted with help from Tri-State Neurological Surgeons, Dr. Steven Gilman and Dr. Brian Dalton.

Anna was presented with a Hero cape in a special wish reveal ceremony where Spinal Elements presented a donation check for \$15,000 to the Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania & West Virginia chapter. Dr. Gilman and Dr. Dalton have been using Spinal Elements Hero Allograft in their surgeries since 2015 and in doing so, helped make

Honoring the Gift.  
Paying it Forward.



Anna's wish possible through Spinal Elements Hero Allograft program.

Anna was diagnosed with leukemia in April 2017 and has been out of school for six months. A family vacation was her wish because she wanted to do something the whole family could enjoy. Anna originally thought she wanted to swim with the dolphins but ultimately changed her mind. Anna told her Make-A-Wish volunteers that she wanted to go to LEGOLAND to do something that her brothers could also enjoy since they had shared this tough year with her.

Make-A-Wish expanded on Anna's wish by granting the entire family of five, a six-day stay at the nonprofit resort Give Kids the World in Kissimmee, Florida. The resort is an 84-acre "storybook" resort where children with critical illnesses and their families are treated to week-long cost-free vacations.

While in Florida, the family will spend three days at Disney World, and visit LEGOLAND, SeaWorld, and Universal Studios as well. Anna and her brothers are looking forward to a special Jedi training where they will train to become Jedi Masters.

Jan Stork, Vice President of Development at Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia, shared the goal at Make-A-Wish is to let the family enjoy being together. "Enjoy being a family, and think of nothing but ice cream, Jedi, LEGOLAND and having fun. That is all you're responsible for". Anna's mother was blown away by the generosity stating, "We never expected to be on the receiving end".

Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia grants 700+ wishes a year. Their goal is to provide a wish to every child that is eligible and invite the entire family to take part. "The donation from Spinal Elements is making that possible", said Jan. This Make-A-Wish chapter will be able to grant multiple wishes from Spinal Elements' donation.

The Hero Program was launched in 2012, offering surgeons and hospitals across the country the opportunity to pledge to use only allograft tissue from companies that philanthropically apply profits from the transfer of that tissue. Allograft is human tissue that is obtained by way of an authorized gift of a donor and/or their family and can then be turned into scores of medical products.

"We named our allograft program "Hero" to honor the donors of allograft, and because we see these kids as the true Heroes," said Jason Blain, President and CEO of Spinal Elements.

Spinal Elements has chosen to honor tissue donation as a gift of life by donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Hero Allograft, to charities benefitting children with serious medical conditions. To date, Spinal Elements has donated well in excess of \$1M through the Hero program.

For more information please visit [www.spinalelements.com](http://www.spinalelements.com) or [heroallograft.com](http://heroallograft.com)



Pictured: Anna's family; Twin Brothers, Father (center), Mother (far right), Jane Stork (front row left) Anna's MAW volunteer (back row left), Dr. Dalton, Dr. Gilman, Erica Esposito & Marc Yap from Spinal Elements