

The Funk Family

My wife, Brandi, was five months pregnant when we were living in San Francisco and I was diagnosed with brain cancer. My tumor was the size of an orange and located in my left frontal lobe. I had craniotomy that removed most of my tumor, but some still remains around my optic nerve and thalamus. In the middle of my 18-month phase II chemotherapy treatment, when our beautiful daughter, Parny, was six months old, we moved to Madison to be closer to our families and slow our lives down a bit. Now we monitor my tumor situation with MRIs every few months and live our lives with great enthusiasm and joy.

We are a young, energetic family (Baby Beatrix arrived in July 2005) living with cancer, and although it's very difficult at times, we're thankful for every moment we spend together. We need a Gilda's Club in Madison because everyone touched by cancer needs support and a community, and that's what Gilda's Club is... a place to go when you need encouragement and hope.

- Chris Funk, Brain Cancer Survivor, age 31