

Dear Friends and Family,

I know some of you haven't heard from me in ages, while others may think you see me all too much! In either case, I hope this note finds you and your loved ones in good health and happiness. Summer's over, and with it all the activities that took up all of my free time, namely dragon boat racing, softball, and playing golf. So now what am I to do with myself over the winter? Should I once again follow the established routine of becoming intimate with my couch, watching football and hibernating? No, this year I've decided to try something different, the complete opposite of what comes naturally: I've begun training for the Los Angeles Marathon on March 3rd, 2002!

You heard me right! While most of you will be sleeping in and staying warm and dry the next few months, I'll be up early and training through cold, rain and darkness. Why am I doing this? A few years ago I set a personal goal of running a marathon. I successfully (and painfully) completed my first half marathon this summer and I now feel ready to take on the next challenge. But there's another, more important reason: I won't be doing this alone. I'm very excited to be a member of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (TNT) program.

TNT's purpose is to provide professional coaching and guidance for individuals to compete in endurance events. In return, participants do their part by raising funds towards the Society's mission, which is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Since joining TNT I've learned much about these diseases, including these shocking facts:

- New cases of leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma account for nearly 9% of all cancer cases diagnosed in the U.S. each year.
- In the United States someone every five minutes learns they have a blood-related cancer; every nine minutes, another child or adult dies from one.
- However, thanks in no small part to research dollars provided by the Society, the survival rate for the most common form of childhood leukemia has improved from 4% in 1960 to 80% today.

As most of you know, I was affected personally by cancer when my father died from the disease in 1985. Besides Dad, cancer has struck a number of other people in my life, and I know many of you can say the same. I feel that the public has become somewhat desensitized to cancer simply because it's been around so long that it seems almost a fact of life. Cancer today is still the number two killer of all Americans. The research funded by the Society does not benefit solely those blood-related cancers; these studies are considered a critical step towards the cure of many other cancers as well. I'm proud to be part of the Northern California Team, which raised over \$8 million last year alone to distinguish itself as the #1 TNT chapter in the country.

I've discovered that through TNT I can both honor my dad and at the same time raise funds to fight the disease that claimed him. The true beneficiaries of my fundraising effort however are people like my Team's honoree Shelby. Shelby is six years old and loves to swim, dance, and listen to teenage pop bands. Just your average 1st grader with one difference: She's also a cancer survivor. After being diagnosed two years ago with Burkitt's Lymphoma, Shelby bravely faced surgeries, chemotherapy treatments, and the loss of her hair. That was before. Today, she is cancer free, thanks to medical breakthroughs discovered with the financial support of the Society. Shelby is as happy to cheer on "her runners" as she likes to say, as we are to have her inspiration.

Here's where I hope that you can lend your support. Along with my goal of running 26.2 miles, I've also dedicated myself to raising at least \$4,000 for the Society in the names of Shelby, my dad, and all the others I know with cancer. There will be times throughout my training and even during the marathon when I'll want to quit. But it is the strength and inspiration I draw from them that will get me across the finish line. As tough as my race will be, it's nothing compared to the pain and hardship these people have endured.

It's been a very difficult year for all of us and our entire country. With the holidays upon us now, I know that this time of year is especially quite hectic, so let me try to lighten your load. Rather than sending me a Christmas card this year, I ask that you consider instead sponsoring my fundraising goal for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Please return the attached sponsor form with your **100% tax-deductible** donation by December 28, 2001. (Many of you may also be eligible for corporate matching donations; please check with your HR department.) I've also enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope for your convenience. If you can't make a contribution please at least use it to say hello and lend your moral support!

I would not devote myself to this cause or advocate it to you unless I sincerely believed it was a noble one. I truly appreciate your support and will keep you posted on my progress. My heartfelt thanks for your generosity; I can't do it without your help.

Ed Louie



SPONSORSHIP FORM

Yes!! I want to support Ed and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's mission to defeat leukemia and blood-related cancers! If he's crazy enough to run the Los Angeles Marathon I'm happy to sponsor him!

Please complete this form and return to me in the enclosed envelope by December 28th, 2001. (Donations are gladly accepted until February 18th, but get your last 2001 tax write-off now!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Suggested Contribution Levels:

- \$26.20 – One dollar for every mile I run
- \$36 – Early birthday gift! I'll turn 36 two days before the event!
- \$66 – The age I'll feel after I finish!
- \$100 – The percentage of effort it will take me to reach my goals
- \$250 - I know there are a few of you DotCom millionaires out there!
- \$_____ – Other amount - Every dollar counts!!

Please ask if your employer offers corporate matching funds!

Please make your check payable to ***The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society***. Your contribution is 100% tax-deductible. If you'd prefer to donate by credit card, please complete the information below:

MC/VISA/AMEX (circle one) #: _____ Exp: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

If you would like me to pay tribute to someone in *your* life who has been afflicted with leukemia or any other form of cancer please list his/her name below. I'll be thrilled to add it to the honoree bracelet I'll wear during the marathon to give me further inspiration to cross the finish line on March 3rd, 2002.

Honoree(s) _____

Thank you for your support!

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PS – Please feel free to forward this to anyone you know who may like to help!!

