

Warden Karastas - Go Fund Me Information: <https://gofund.me/5474ffab>

Help Me, Help My Brother Survive Cancer:

My name is Justin KARASTAS, I wanted to share my brothers story with the public, as he is not comfortable asking for help. A little bit about my brother Warden KARASTAS. Warden, who is currently 33 years old, grew up in Calgary, AB, and has always worked hard to achieve his goals as an Automotive Service Technician. Warden has been working on vehicles for the past 17 years, and has created many different friendships in the local Automotive communities. Warden has always been there to help others who needed him, which included putting his personal life on hold many different times. I like to think that because Warden came from a family of Medical staff members, Public servants, and Law enforcement members, that he has always been on the straight and narrow when it comes to life choices. I'm very proud of my brother, and the man he has developed into over the last several years. Recently, I have become more closer with my brother, to which he disclosed something heavy for me to hear.



Warden was recently diagnosed the Chondrosarcoma - a type of malignant bone cancer made up of Cartilage cells. The Tumor that is currently growing inside his lower body, is approximately the size of a football. Warden advised me that the Tumor is currently embedded in the major organs in his pelvic area; the tumor is also putting an immense amount of pressure on the main artery in his left leg/hip.

Warden was advised by surgeons that surgery is not an option at this point, because they would have to remove major organs, and surrounding good tissue. The amount of radiation units that my brother requires, means that he will need to seek treatment in the United States of America, not Canada. The treatment that was offered to my brother in Canada means, it would be less than 50% effective, and they would still be required to remove parts of his organs and tissue. The removal of these organs, and tissues would leave my brother permanently disabled, and having a low quality of life. This would mean that he would have to retire from his passion, and seek other means of funding. Warden would not be very independent anymore, and would have to be monitored by in house care workers.

The Surgeon also stated that in the United States of America, they can offer a type of treatment called Proton Radiation therapy. This type of treatment is so precise, that when they treat the tumor by micro measurements, the radiation will not interfere with any non-cancerous cells. The Proton Radiation Therapy was said to have over an 80-90% success rate, and would allow my brother to have a happy quality of life, and allow him to still have a family of his own.

The Alberta government stated that if they approve the cost of this treatment, it will cost over \$300,000.

If the Alberta government refuses to cover the cost of this treatment, it will cost us \$150,000 (not including living expenses). The surgeon mentioned to my brother that provincial governments are the ones who approve / deny all high expense treatments. The surgeon also stated that the provincial government only budgets for approximately 12 people a year to seek treatment out of country. If you're number 13, then unfortunately you will be rejected.

If we can move forward with this treatment, my brother will have to stay in Seattle for 8-12 weeks. The cost of my brothers living expenses is something that we did not integrate into the price, because we believe that we can also work hard, and find some compromise to cover our end. If we raise more money than we need to cover the cost of my brothers surgery/ treatment, we will directly donate the remaining balance to the Tom Baker Cancer Centre, with the hopes that we can bring this Proton treatment to Canada, so no one else has to struggle like us.

From my family to yours, we thank you for your time, we appreciate any and all help!