



dreamfoundation™

The Dream Journal

CELEBRATING YOU AND THE DREAMS YOU MAKE POSSIBLE!

August
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Juan and his family were given a warm welcome at Rosewood Miramar Beach Resort in Santa Barbara, California.

*Image:
Mindy Rainey*



Santa Barbara embraces Juan and his family!

Devoted father Juan wanted to spend time with his family in a place far away from daily life but close to their home in Goleta, California. Once again, the Santa Barbara community opened their hearts!

For most of his life, Juan worked in food service and hospitality at some of the most luxurious hotels in Santa Barbara, California, close to the Goleta home he shares with his partner, Mayra, and two children.

After his cancer diagnosis, Juan continued to work hard to provide for his family until he was given the devastating news that his condition was terminal.

"The hardest part is feeling like I was not able to finish raising my children," Juan says. "My son often tells me that he misses when we used to play together, especially the outdoor physical activities. This is heartbreaking."

You can help make end-of-life Dreams come true with a gift of \$25.

Juan dreamed of spending time at a local beach house with his family and visiting the Santa Barbara Zoo one more time.

"I am not able to go far from home or do anything that takes a lot of energy, so staying somewhere close by would be something really special," Juan explained. "We could get away from daily life and focus on being together."

Juan also wanted to see inside the Rosewood Miramar Beach Resort. "I used to work at El Encanto and, before that, at the Bacara, so I had the opportunity to see those beautiful places," he explained. "I have always been very interested in seeing the Miramar."

Sharing Juan's Dream with the Santa Barbara community showed once again how incredibly generous and supportive you are!



The Santa Barbara Zoo gave the family the VIP treatment with a golf cart tour and a chance to feed the penguins.

"Looking at the kids having so much fun is one of the most gratifying feelings for me. My son keeps asking when we are going back to the beach house, and I tell him, 'One day...one day.' Thank you for bringing that happiness to my life and my family's."

Longtime supporters Tiffany and Frank Foster donated a 4-night stay in her beautiful beach home. Flower Empower volunteers filled it with flowers and gifts from The Riviera Towel Company, Santa Barbara Tennis Club and Zooker's Restaurant, and gift cards from Padaro Beach Grill, Trader Joe's, Lucky Llama Coffee House and Giovanni's. And our Dream Heroes helped with other expenses.

Juan and his family were given a warm welcome at the Rosewood Miramar Beach Resort from Director of Programming Hannah Rock and Managing Director Rick Fidel. Juan and his family were given a special guided tour, which meant so much to all of them. Then they all enjoyed tea on the lawn. Some of the hotel's employees had previously worked with Juan and insisted on paying for him to stay at the hotel for a night.

The Santa Barbara Zoo also gave Juan four entry tickets, a golf cart tour, and the chance to feed the penguins.

The whole family was overwhelmed with gratitude at the generosity of everyone who gave him more than he'd ever dreamed of. "When I die, I hope these memories will help the children remember happy times together and know how important they are to me," says Juan.

Susan makes the most of her gifts to pay it forward

In 2004, following a terminal diagnosis, Susan's daughter was granted her Dream trip to San Antonio, Texas. Seeing its impact made Susan want to help make Dreams come true for others facing the end of life.

"Terminally-ill adults are often overlooked, and the Dreams you have given over the years have meant so much to them and their families," she says. "This was something I wanted to be part of."

Susan has supported Dream Foundation ever since. But advice from her financial advisor made her switch from monthly giving to charitable contributions using the required minimum withdrawal from her IRA. The move helped Susan increase both her overall support for Dream Foundation and her monthly household income. It also meant that she could continue to help make Dreams come true even when her household income dropped following the death of her husband.

Over the years, Susan's commitment to Dreams has only deepened, and she is glad she made the switch. "I love seeing what you have been able to give to others who thought their Dreams could never be realized," she says. "And it was awesome to find that the IRS recognizes Dream Foundation for this type of giving."



After seeing what a Dream meant to her daughter, Susan wanted to help provide Dreams for others facing the end of life.



See more ways to help: www.dreamfoundation.org/ways2help/

Welcome to your August Dream Journal!



Kisa Heyer

I am excited to share Juan's Dream story in this edition, and I hope you love it as much as we do! Juan is such a humble man and devoted dad. When he wrote to us asking for help with his Dream, all he wanted was the chance to spend time with his family next to the ocean, and a peek inside a resort he'd always admired, having spent his life working in hospitality in the area. But when we started to talk to people in the community about Juan's Dream, they wanted to give him so much more, especially those who knew him because they'd worked with him. The outpouring of love was so moving to see. I love sharing the Dreams you have made possible with you. Thank you for all the ways that you bring joy, comfort and closure to those facing the end of life.

With appreciation, Kisa Heyer CEO, Dream Foundation

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Help Adrian see one last Dodgers game with his mom!

A lifelong fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Adrian dreams of seeing one last game at the nearby Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles with his family.

"Being a Dodgers fan isn't just a sport or a game," he says. "It's a way of life for myself and my entire family. Now is the only chance I will ever have to see the Dodgers in person one last time with my mom by my side."

More than just watching a Dodgers game, Adrian's Dream is about leaving a legacy of joyful memories for his whole family, particularly his mom.

"My mom has cared for me selflessly and lovingly over the last few months," he says. "I would appreciate a final night filled with happiness, joy and laughter. So when the day comes, my family ... will remember it as a day of happiness ... knowing we were able to have a grand final moment together."



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