

During his medical journey, DJ became enamored with rodeos. As horse lovers, his family watches every rodeo they can on TV. When DJ found out he was going to be a wish recipient, he knew he wanted to experience the sport in person for himself. DJ's wild, Western week at a local rodeo provided DJ and his family time to focus on pure fun.

At the event, DJ got a behind-the-scenes tour, rode in the rodeo parade, had lunch in the Director's Club, presented awards, met rodeo leadership and rode the carnival rides multiple times. One event winner even presented DJ with her championship belt buckle as a memento of his well-deserved wish day. DJ's rodeo wish helped him lasso renewed joy and strength for any challenges ahead.

The majority of kids whose wishes we grant go on to beat their illness and live healthy lives – and they often credit their wish for giving them the physical and emotional strength they needed to fight their critical illness.

