

Brett's Story, as told by his mom Lisa:

Well Brett was born in September of 98 and we thought everything was great. That is until he was about 3. When we went to his 3-year check and the doctor asked if he had always looked like that? My reply was yes, (thinking his head is cute to me.) Then the doctor got specific and asked, "has he always had a football shaped head?" After looking a little closer at my Little Man's head and the shape I could see where the doctor was coming from. Before I could say another word the doctor told me Brett would need a CT scan that same day and he was going to have the pictures sent to a neurosurgeon at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. After hearing that I immediately had a pit in my stomach. What was happening? In panic I called my mom on the way down to the CT scan. I couldn't even get the words out. Through the tears I told her what was happening and she calmed me down (like any Mom does) and told me we would take things one-step at a time. Little did I know we were in for the ride of our life!



The appointments started at Children's Hospital with the Neurosurgeon and Plastic Surgeon right away. After a few months of tests and doctors not say anything about what he had or thought he had we heard the dreaded your child suffers from a condition called craniosynostosis. My heart sank and I immediately thought why him? Then I heard the and your son will need to have surgery to correct this problem. MY first question was and how long will the surgery last and was told about 9 hours. NINE HOURS!!!!!! That had to be a mistake. I thought I was in a bad dream and I would wake up and everything would be ok. Reality set in and I began to accept the diagnosis. After the Neurosurgeon studied the results of the 3D scans of Brett's head they told me we were in no rush to do the surgery. Since I am a teacher and the CTs showed his brain had enough room to grow the doctors and I thought that we could schedule the surgery in June so I could be home with him all summer. Well in September I had a nightmare that there was not enough room in his skull and we needed to do the surgery like now! So after talking with the doctors and telling them my fears we scheduled the surgery for January.