Supporting Children with Cancer

The Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation is the beneficiary of fundraising events to support the work of its many charitable endeavors across the country.

One such initiative is The Yellow Shirt Fund, which supports pediatric cancer patients nationwide.

Please read the touching story inside about Craig Smith and the yellow shirt that inspired the Golden Bear on one of the greatest days in golf history.

**The Yellow Shirt Fund**

A heartwarming story about Jack Nicklaus, a young boy’s struggle with cancer, and their favorite color – yellow.

Benefiting the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation

“**To the world, you may be one person, but to one person, you may be the world.**”

To make a charitable donation and help Jack and Barbara Nicklaus and the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation support our children with cancer, please visit The Yellow Shirt Fund website at nchcf.org/yellow-shirt-fund.

Thank you for your support!

Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation

View the video at nchcf.org/yellow-shirt.

Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation

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The Story Behind The Yellow Shirt Fund

At the time, it was just an unspoken bond between a young boy and his idol. But a strong connection grew out of a love for the game of golf – and the color yellow.

Craig Smith was the son of close Nicklaus family friends, Dr. Bill Smith and his wife Mary Lou. Dr. Smith was Barbara Nicklaus’ minister for 30 years. There was no bigger fan of Jack Nicklaus than Craig. At age 11, Craig was stricken with a rare form of bone cancer. His idol would call to provide him with support or just to say hello.

One Sunday, following a Golden Bear victory, Jack called Craig, who said, “I knew you were going to win, because I was wearing my lucky yellow shirt.” From that moment on, it was not uncommon to see Jack walk up the 18th fairway on Sunday wearing yellow. It was his message to Craig that he was thinking of him and, more importantly, that he wasn’t alone in his battle.

In June 1971, at age 13, Craig passed away. But his memory never left Jack and Barbara Nicklaus. That’s why 15 years later, on the Sunday of the 1986 Masters, Barbara and Jack decided he would wear yellow to honor Craig’s memory. A day that started with a gesture inspired by a loving memory ended with 46-year-old Jack Nicklaus slipping on his sixth green jacket. It was arguably the most memorable Masters Tournament and major championship of his storied career.

About the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation

Since 2004, Jack and Barbara Nicklaus have dedicated themselves to promoting and protecting the health of our children through their Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation. Today, thanks to their commitment and personal involvement, the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation has supported the health, safety, and well-being of many children.

The Foundation provides access to world-class health care for all children and supports innovative programs focused on diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of childhood illness.

The Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation and The Yellow Shirt Fund support this important mission every day.