

# Chuck's Chicks

ROCK **DISNEY** MARATHON

January 8, 2006

by *Susan Lapp*

**K**ristin Lapp and Jodi McHenry are friends and college roommates studying physical therapy at Thomas Jefferson University College of Health Professions in Philadelphia. On a cold Sunday morning, January 8, 2006, in Orlando, Florida, they participated in and completed the Disney Marathon.

Kristin and Jodi joined up with Team in Training for the New Jersey Marathon in April 2004. Due to several health setbacks they were unable to run the marathon but did run the 10-mile. The experience was incredible and they set their sites for Disney 2006. They call their dynamo team of two, "Chuck's Chicks." They run in memory of Chuck Coxhead, Kristin's dad, who died five years ago from Leukemia. Team in Training is the world's largest sports training organization that raises money for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society. While raising money for blood related cancers,

Team in Training helps prepare athletes for endurance events. Kristin and Jodi joined the PA Southeast Chapter. While attending school, working and making time for boyfriends (Jodi recently got engaged!), they spent countless hours running at Kelly Drive, Valley Forge Park and



Valley Green. Working with their coaches, Kristin and Jodi prepared for the big day always keeping focus on their goal of running 26.2 miles!

Thanks to very generous support from family and friends together they raised over \$8700 for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society. The total amount of money raised was \$6.6 Million!

As the Mom, fundraiser, cheerleader and spectator, I am overwhelmed by the experience. Everything about our trip was memorable and inspirational. Words cannot describe how proud I am of Kristin and Jodi for their great efforts and determination in reaching this goal. The finish line was a truly magical moment. Over the weekend, I met lots of motivated people who shared a common goal of running the Marathon and raising money for a worthy cause. Some people had a personal story of how cancer touched their lives and others were just people who cared enough to raise funds for leukemia while training for the event.

Chuck lives on in our hearts. We admire his courage in his final battle and the unique way he touched so many lives. I'm sure Chuck was with us on Sunday. We honor his memory by raising this money to help other patients and their families. I'm thankful for all the lives that are saved.

As the girls look back on this awesome achievement and moment in time, I hope they remember the fun. As they look ahead, I hope they learned that anything is possible. I did. Every step brings us closer to a cure. GO TEAM!!