

'Run for George' spotlights pancreatic cancer

Friday, November 2, 2007

When George Rubis learned he had pancreatic cancer a decade ago, doctors told him there was little they could do. He died 15 months later at age 63.

Rubis' family wants to help others face better odds. The fifth annual "Run for George" will raise money for pancreatic cancer research, with a 5K race or walk in Englewood Cliffs on Nov. 18.

The powerful disease kills 95 percent of its patients within five years. Medical understanding of it lags behind other major cancers; there are no routine tools to detect it early and few effective ways to treat it. About 37,000 Americans will learn this year that they have pancreatic cancer.

"Run for George" has raised more than \$220,000 from its past four events to help scientists at Johns Hopkins University, home to a range of studies related to pancreatic cancer.

Registration starts at 10 a.m. Participants can choose a 3-mile or 1-mile loop. The event, which starts at the Upper School at 143 Charlotte Place in Englewood Cliffs, includes a silent auction, Greek food, games and a deejay for children. For more information, go to runforgeorge.com

-- Leslie Brody

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