

## Michael Vincent Lewandowski

Michael Vincent Lewandowski was born first son of proud parents Tom and Marybeth on August 13, 1991 in Greenville, South Carolina. He was originally diagnosed with neuroblastoma at the age of six. Michael would never want any special treatment because of his disease, and he did everything he could to keep it silent among the hockey community in Charleston. I have had the honor of coaching Michael for 4 years. During the first practice, I knew he was special. His work ethic was stronger than any pee wee I had ever worked with. His talent was very good, but his heart was unbelievable. This heart was there for all of the 4 years I coached him. Michael was a team leader, goal scorer and inspiration to many a teammate and coach. By the time his was 12, his cancer had come and gone three times, but Michael never gave up. He would fly to the Sloan Cancer center in New York, be there all week, but on Friday before a tournament he would force his Doctors to release him so he could play hockey that weekend, because the Junior Stingrays needed him. The Doctors knew he should not be playing hockey, but gave in and decided to let him play, as it was hockey that gave him hope. When Michael put on his equipment, for 3 fifteen minute periods there was no cancer, there were no doctors, iv's, or chemotherapy just him, 5 teammates and a 6 foot by 4 foot target wrapped in red at the opposing end of the ice, and all the glory in the world for sending the small black disc hurling to that target.



Michael  
Lewandowski



Michael is survived by his parents and younger brother and teammate Steven (Bantam Jr. Stingray) and sister Joanmarie.

Russ LaFrance  
Jr. Stingray Coach