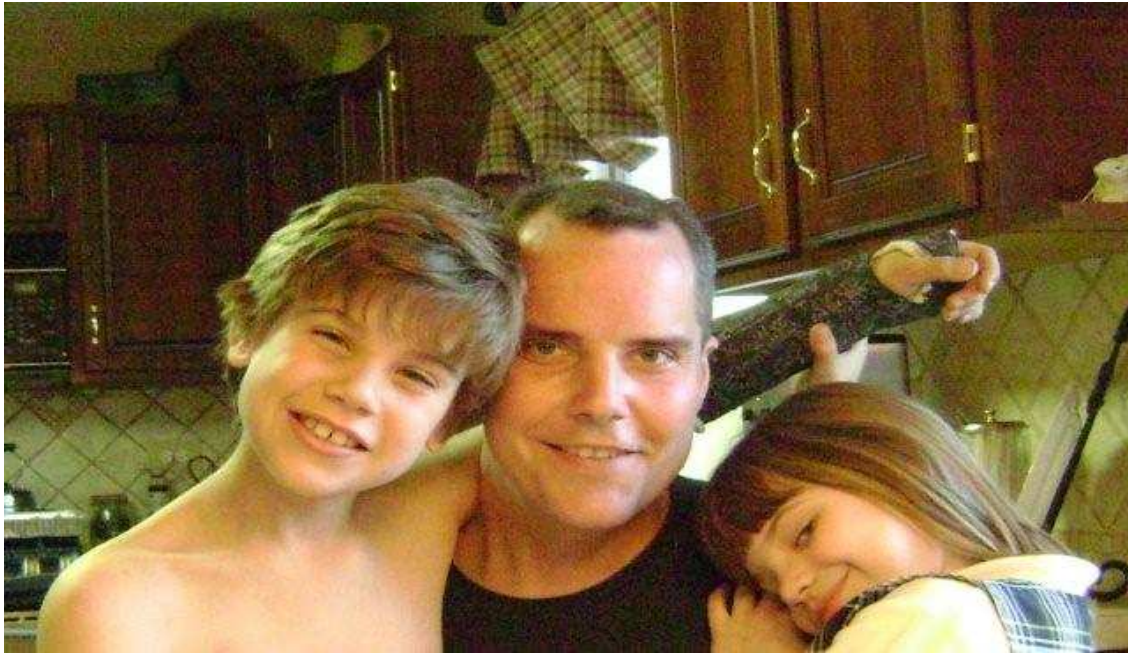


Dear Friends,

My name is Rick Sroka and I am writing you as a mutual friend of Jim and Nicole Sisko. As many of you know, Jim is in the fight of his life with stage IV colon cancer. Jim and Nicole's story can be found at www.caringbridge.org/visit/jsisko. See the 'journal' link for the latest information. This season has been a difficult one, but their faith in God and their determination to persevere has grown stronger.

They have felt the prayers and support of so many, but there is another tangible way that we can all assist them with the many financial burdens that this illness has caused. Greg Steinmetz, a longtime friend of Jim, has initiated a silent auction that will benefit the Sisko family. The benefit is scheduled to take place June 6th, 2009, 11:00AM to 3:00PM at Wool Street Grill, 800 Feinberg Court, Cary, IL 60013. www.woolstreetgrill.com



Here is Jim with son, Michael, and daughter, Elizabeth shortly after Jim's diagnosis.

I am asking, as friends of Jim and Nicole, to prayerfully consider how you could assist with this silent auction.

There are opportunities to help in at least four ways:

- 1) Donate an item, product, or service to the silent auction.
- 2) Attend the silent auction and purchase something that is up for bid.
- 3) Volunteer to help in some clerical/organizational way.
- 4) Pray for God's leading and blessing on this event.

In addition, a fund has been established at Harris Bank for cash donations. Please contact Harris Bank - Julie Freund (847) 756-5681, Greg at (630) 607-9087, or gregsteinmetz@ymail.com for details. More details and auction items will follow as they become available. To be included in future updates, please email Greg with Add Me to the List in the subject line.

It is difficult to see someone you care about, dealing with a life threatening illness. So many times we say, "I wish I could do something". This is your chance to make a real difference for a family in their time of need. We hope to see everyone at the silent auction in June.

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. Romans 5:1-5