



*I wish to meet
Harrison Ford*
Connor, 12
cystic fibrosis

Meet Connor

WISH GRANTED, 2017

At only three months old, Connor was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis. This began his journey through various courses of treatment with his family determined to find the winning combination of therapies. Over the ensuing 12 years, Connor has undergone sinus surgeries; used inhalers, nebulizers, oral medications, nose sprays, chest vests to clear his lungs; and is involved in physical activities to stop the progression of cystic fibrosis symptoms.

Most adults—let alone 11-year-olds—would dread the daily routine Connor endures, but he is exceptionally responsible for his age. He sets his alarm to wake up early and administer his own treatments. He maintains a positive outlook and finds ways to enjoy favorite activities like swimming that help his lung and sinus issues. Connor's strength translates to other areas of his life, too, including elementary school, where he earns straight As and served as student body president.

When Connor isn't occupied with his daily treatments, he enjoys learning about outer space. His appetite for books on the subject—fiction and nonfiction—led to his love of everything related to Star Wars. Although Connor was excited about the new Star Wars movies, he really likes the history behind the franchise and the original trilogy.





Once Connor learned he was eligible for a wish and met with Wish Granters Anne-Marie and Alan, he knew exactly what he wanted: to meet actor Harrison Ford and talk to him about the experience of bringing to life everyone's favorite space pirate, Han Solo. During an assembly at Connor's school, Storm Troopers and Darth Vader were on hand to reveal his wish was coming true... as the school band played the Star Wars theme song!

On January 12, 2017, Connor's wish came true at Mr. Ford's personal airplane hangar. As Connor and his family approached the location, their jaws dropped when Ford personally greeted them at the entrance and knew all their names before they even had the chance to introduce themselves. He welcomed them to his home away from home and chatted with Connor and his family for several hours. When Connor asked him about his favorite movie or role, Ford replied, "You can't choose between your kids; they are all special."

As Ford showed Connor his planes and helicopter, he informed Connor he could begin taking classes at 14 and have his pilot license by the time he turns 16. Ford autographed some items for Connor to take home and gave Connor and his brother a ride to lunch in his Tesla! After lunch, they all said their goodbyes and Ford's parting words left a profound mark. Harrison Ford encouraged Connor, "Instead of 'May the Force be with you'... 'Be the force.'"

