

Coach Deigs Helps Siblings of Patients

Dan Deighan, of Merritt Island, Florida, is positive that his relationship with Nemours Children’s Hospital was meant to be.

“In the space of less than an hour,” he says, “three events pointed me toward Nemours. While looking for an opportunity to give my time, I connected with volunteer services at the Hospital. Then, I discovered that a good friend was helping out at the Nemours Preview Center. Finally, I found out one of my golf buddies had joined the Nemours Fund for Children’s Health.”

“I want to be a resource for kids and help give them some sense of control and normalcy.”

As a young man, Dan was a successful track and cross-country coach. A mentor pointed him in a new direction and he founded a financial services company, now known as Deighan Financial Advisors, Inc. “I quickly learned that people benefit from a coaching and mentoring relationship when it comes to their personal finances. Everyone calls me ‘Coach Deigs,’ just like my runners did,” he says.

“I wanted to give more than just money,” comments Coach Deigs. “I took a tour of the new Hospital and learned more about



The “Coach Deigs” Room offers great activities for older kids.

what would be offered there.” He joined the Family Advisory Council and listened to what families had to say about their experiences. “Then it came to me. I decided to make a significant gift to support a special room in the Hospital just for siblings.”

“I learned from these parents that siblings often feel somewhat left out when their brother or sister is sick. All of the family’s resources are going to the child in the hospital,” he comments. “They may be saying, ‘What about me?’” The Coach Deigs room at Nemours Children’s Hospital is designed to help these children cope. It features a

foosball table, big-screen television, games, comfortable furniture, golf putter and sound system—everything the 12+ age group loves.

Coach Deigs didn’t stop there, however. He also participates in the Beads of Courage program at Nemours Children’s Hospital, which presents special beads to children who are being treated for cancer and other serious illnesses. Each child will receive a Coach Deigs bead along with their ‘starter’ bead. “I want to be a resource for kids,” he says, “and help give them some sense of control and normalcy.”