

THE WNY FOOD INDUSTRY IS PROUD TO SUPPORT

# THE 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VARIETY KIDS TELETHON 2008



7AM THROUGH 7PM SUNDAY MARCH 2  
LIVE ON WKBW-TV CHANNEL 7



To benefit Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo, The Robert Warner M.D. Center For Children With Special Needs and other WNY Children's Charities.



2008 Celebrity Child Grace Anne Croop  
and General Chairman, Larry Taber

With a Help Us Grow theme, the Variety Kids Telethon is proud to introduce 2008 Celebrity Child Grace Anne Croop of North Tonawanda, New York.

Grace is the daughter of Tom and Vicki Croop, and triplet sister to Colin and Elizabeth Croop. Grace is a very happy 8½ year old girl that has accepted her many challenges with determination.

Born at home 13 weeks premature on Easter Sunday, April 4, 1999, Grace weighed 2 lbs, and was only 14 inches long. Through many complications Grace survived and spent her first days after birth in the Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit with her brother and sister.

At 3 days old, Grace developed bleeding in the center of her brain that would likely cause significant developmental delays along with physical disabilities as she grew. During this time, a tiny hole in her heart was also discovered and treated with medication.

At 23 days old, Grace underwent brain surgery to relieve pressure that was building inside her skull from excess brain fluid and to help prevent her head from growing too fast. During that surgery, complications resulted in a collapsed lung and pneumonia.

At 7 months old, Grace underwent another surgery to allow fluid to travel from inside her brain down through narrow tubing under her skin and into her abdominal cavity where it could be re-absorbed.

In February 2006, Grace started treatment for growth hormone deficiencies to strengthen bones and help increase her height and weight.

Her personal strength, along with her positive attitude makes her an example to everyone who knows her. She is now a happy third grader at Drake Elementary School. She takes baton lessons and has been in Brownies for three years. Grace likes to dance, play, read, draw, ride her bike, sing, and go camping.

With the continued support and caring of the Western New York community, Grace and all of Variety's special children know that they will continue to grow and achieve all their wishes and dreams, today, tomorrow and always.

Please support the following businesses that have made generous contributions to the Variety Kids Telethon 2008.

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