

David Manlove played baseball at OYO from 1990-1997. He was an outstanding catcher and shortstop, participating each year on travel and all-star teams for the league. In June 2000 David finished his first year at Lawrence Central High School, where he was a catcher on the Freshman baseball team.

That summer, Kim and Marissa Manlove discovered that their then 15-year-old son had a substance abuse problem. Because he was in many ways just a typical high school boy—an athlete, lots of friends, doing well in school, a loving and caring young man—he didn't fit what **they** thought was the stereotype of someone with substance abuse problems.

The Manloves turned to Fairbanks, a local substance abuse treatment center, for an evaluation and were shocked to learn the extent of David's alcohol and drug use. Armed with this knowledge and David's promise that he would stop, they spent the next several months thinking they could manage the situation themselves. **But they were wrong.** At the urging of their older son Josh, the Manloves returned to Fairbanks for treatment; David also began attending 12 Step meetings and seemed to be assimilating the tools of recovery into his life. But his desire to get high was very powerful, more powerful than the Manloves knew, and more importantly, more powerful than David knew himself.

And so on a beautiful, warm sunny Saturday the second week of June, 2001 he got up early, mowed the yard, and then asked if he could go out with friends. He ended up at the home of a friend, swimming in their backyard pool. At lunchtime the girls went into the house to eat but David and another boy said they wanted to go to a nearby fast food place. However, they went instead to a drug store in the neighborhood and bought a can of computer keyboard cleaner. Months earlier David had discovered he could get high by inhaling the propellant from computer duster, and the chemical in the propellant would not show up on any of the usual drug tests. David and his friends returned to the pool and began "huffing" the duster; to intensify the high, David dove underwater. The chemical in the propellant caused David's heart to go into cardiac arrest and his lungs filled with water. Despite intensive emergency efforts on the scene and by the medical team at the nearby hospital, David could not be revived.

In the years following David's death the Manloves' have worked tirelessly to bring the message to parents and youth about the power and the perils of substance abuse, and the particular dangers of inhalant abuse. They have come to understand that substance abuse is no respecter of gender, race or social status and that parental denial enables

drug use. Along with other families affected by this disease, the Manloves are co-founders of The 24 Group, a nonprofit organization dedicated to offering education, advocacy and recovery support to those affected by the disease of addiction in adolescents and young adults. Money raised at today's tournament will be used to help fund educational programs and treatment for adolescents and young adults who cannot afford it.

For more information and to find out how you can help, go to www.the24group.org





“We can’t change what happened to David but we can honor his struggle by helping others understand the unbelievable power of addiction. By identifying the problem early and seeking treatment, young people can and do recover, restoring hope to their lives and the lives of their loved ones. We are tremendously grateful to the Oaklandon Youth Organization for sponsoring this tournament in David’s memory.”

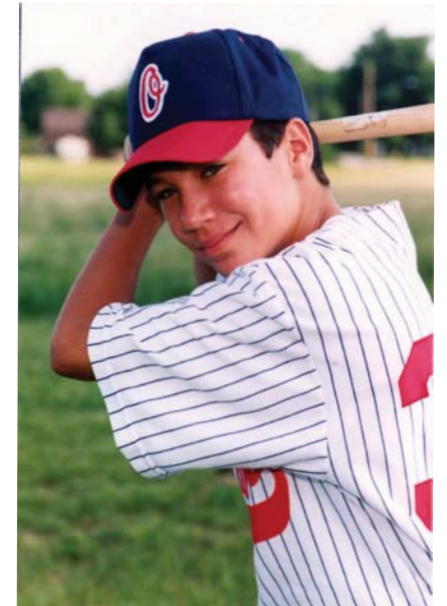
Thank you so much for joining us today “

Kim and Marissa Manlove

The Oaklandon Youth Organization



David Manlove Memorial Invitational Tournament



**Proceeds Support
The 24 Group for those
affected by addiction.**

“Hope, Help, Serenity”