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QV Sophomore Organizing Basketball Benefit

by Joanne Barron Staff Writer

By playing basketball, Quaker Valley Middle School students will be helping those in their last hours of life find peace and comfort.

That's Christian Miller's hope as he organizes a basketball skills competition from 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 20 for his personal project in the Quaker Valley High School gymnasium. The high school sophomore said he hopes to raise as much money as possible for **Family Hospice and Palliative Care** in Pittsburgh, which gave quality and compassionate care to his grandmother, Dorothy Lewis-Kistler, when she had lung cancer.

She died on Feb. 14, 2009.

A retired elementary school teacher, she was very active in her church and community and went on a mission trip to Uganda, Miller said

"She was my biggest fan and came to all of my sporting events — basketball, baseball, lacrosse and football. She got to throw out the honorary first pitch at the Quaker Valley Recreation Association baseball championship," said Miller, a member of the high school basketball team who has played basketball since he was in first grade.

"I am doing this so that many other people can be helped just like my grandmother was."

Miller said many members of his basketball team are helping him with the event, and he has been busy advertising it.

The competition for Quaker Valley Middle School students will consist of three-member teams. The registration cost is \$15 for a team, or \$5 a person, will proceeds going to Family Hospice. Centers for Rehab Services, a physical therapy company, already has donated \$250.

Players will compete in four events. One player from each team will compete in one event each — a foul shot competition, a three-point competition, and a dribbling competition for the fastest time.

All will compete in the final team event where players will have seven spots from which to make 10 shots from each. They will have three minutes to complete it.

Each team will compete for the top score, and each team must consist of no more than two players who play on the middle school basketball team.

All players on each team must be in the same grade.

Gold medals will be given to each winning team per grade level. Everyone who enters the competition will receive a prize, certificate of participation and prize bag.

All players also will be eligible to win several door prizes, ranging from gift cards to sporting equipment.

For more information, contact Christian Miller at qv14.millerc@qvmail.org.