

10.2.09
CURTEENHER
DRIMOLEAGUE
CO CORK.

Daniel was a healthy, sporty, sociable young 14 year old when he went off to school on Friday 25th Jan '08 with his older brother and younger sister. They were in great form as they had the day off school from classes due to the South Munster schools cross-country championships which were being held in Middleton, Co Cork. There was a bus load going to it under the enthusiastic supervision of their athletics coach/teacher.

Daniel was running in a 3000m race for the first time. He ran well but on crossing the finishing line, collapsed. By the grace of God, his coach was on the line and immediately went down with him, felt one feeble pulse & then nothing. He had no heart-beat and was not breathing. She immediately started CPR & called for the first-aid-er who had brought a defibrillator and who also, was standing at the finishing line. She administered one shock, continued with the CPR & then administered a second shock which started his heart again after he gagged. He remained unconscious but breathing until a DR & ambulance arrived and took him to hospital.

He was on a ventilator x 48 hrs and when he came off, underwent many tests before he had an AED inserted 10 days later.

We are so thankful he is fit & healthy again but is limited in the sports he can do as his AED will automatically shock him if his heart goes over so many beats/min.

Only for the quick action of his coach & for the availability of a defibrillator, we would not have him with us today. For this, we are eternally grateful, but, forever mindful of those families whose story has not ended this way.

Yours sincerely

Peter + Rosalind Ross.

