



There was not a dry eye on Wednesday as Chris Cummings was honored prior to his steer "Homer" showing in the final steer class. Pictured right is Chris showing Homer at the Jasper County Preview Show in June.

Hereford Youth Remembered



The showing fell silent on Wednesday prior to the final steer class, as the Hereford family remembered and honored Christopher "Chris" Cummings, who passed away just days before he planned on attending the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) in Indianapolis.

Christopher P. Cummings, 18, of Union Mills, Ind., died peacefully surrounded by his family on June 29 after a courageous four-and-a-half-year battle with cancer.

During the JNHE, Indiana junior Conner Cross paraded Chris' steer around the ring as those in attendance

stood to honor and remember the strong young man who had such a passion for raising and showing Herefords.

In 2006 Chris had a wish granted by the Indiana Children's Wish Fund. While most kids would have requested a trip to Disney World, his wish was for a Hereford steer that he could show at the Hoosier Beef Congress. Since that time, while Chris went through numerous surgeries and countless hospital visits, his family explains cattle became an obsession.

After the JNHE, Chris' steer was shown at the Indiana State Fair, where

it was named reserve grand champion Hereford steer.

Chris was a 2010 graduate of South Central High School and played football there. He was a 10-year 4-H member and received the first Cattleman of the Year Award in 2008 at the La Porte County Fair.

Survivors include his parents, Thomas II and Carol Cummings, and a brother Thomas Cummings, who are pictured top right with Indiana Hereford Association President Terry Hayhurst. **HW**