

Luciana Nicolosi



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The Saturday Night Cruisers Car Club has taken Luciana Nicolosi, 7, and her family under its wing. The club has held a couple of car shows in which the funds have benefited the family. In the club members' hearts they just can't do enough for this little girl, who is going through a very tough battle.

Luciana is suffering from critical pulmonary arterial branch stenosis. This disease restricts her blood vessels, causing her heart to overwork and keep her blood from flowing naturally to other areas of her body. She has gone through a number of surgical procedures in her short life.

It was at a car show that Mike Muntz, president of the Saturday Night Cruisers Car Club, saw Luciana walk by and said, "Here comes our little princess." That sparked an idea. Why not officially crown Luciana as the club's little princess at a coronation? Members of the 5th Generation Car Club were also in attendance at the same show and heard about Muntz's idea and they knew they wanted to be a part of helping make it happen.

On Dec. 15, club members filled Duck Town Inn in New Windsor to greet the "little princess" and her family. Luciana was fitted with an outfit of a blue poodle skirt and blue scarf with a white blouse, bobby sox and black shoes, donated by Lou Pagnetti of the Saturday Night Cruisers.

She was then presented with a tiara and a necklace donated by Andrea Randolph, President of the 5th Generation Car Club and owner of D'Andrea's Jewelers in Wantage, N.J., and a sash with "Saturday Night Cruisers Princess" written on it in white lettering. A surprise visit from Santa Claus, played by Richie Driscoll, made it all the better. It was a total surprise for Luciana. Everyone then enjoyed food donated by Tom Prendergast and Angie Thompson, owners of the Ducktown Inn.

The club had also found out about Luciana's father, Thomas, being unemployed and decided to donate \$1,000 worth of gift cards to the family so they could make their holiday special. "Everyone had a great time," Muntz said. "We were all in tears. But that's what it's all about being in a family-oriented car club."

Luciana was thrilled with her tiara. "She pranced around the house all day saying 'I am the princess,'" said her mother, Lorraine. "She even wanted to wear the outfit to school."

The Nicolosis are so grateful to the members of the club and to everyone who made Luciana's coronation so special and those who have donated to help their family. The Nicolosis have another daughter, Giovanna, 9, and a son, Brandon, 21.

