

# STEARNS WEAVER MILLER WEISSLER ALHADEFF & SITTERSON, P.A.

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## **FORMER JOE DIMAGGIO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PATIENT PLAYS FOR FIRST TIME IN JOE DIMAGGIO LEGENDS GAME**

Hollywood, FL – Alberto Rojas, 15, a freshman at West Broward High School in Miramar sported his own personalized jersey and took the field alongside more than 60 former major league baseball players during the Joe DiMaggio Legends Game. Rojas is a cancer survivor and a former patient at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. He was honored as the first patient ever to join the former MLB greats during the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual exhibition baseball game at Fort Lauderdale Stadium on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

In 2008, Rojas, 13, was diagnosed with a rare form of Ewing Sarcoma, a soft bone tissue cancer which spread aggressively from his tailbone into his lungs. He underwent extensive chemotherapy and radiation treatments for a year while his family and friends remained ever-faithful, believing he would regain his health and beat the 10% chance at recovery doctors gave him. Rojas survived, is now cancer free and is an advocate for other young cancer patients.

"I believe that everything happens for a reason. I was diagnosed with cancer so I could help people and inspire people. When I'm finished with all of my treatment I am going to volunteer at the hospital that saved my life. And I'm going to talk to little kids with cancer and make sure they don't lose hope," said Rojas.

Stearns Weaver Miller, as a sponsor of the event, has offered their player position to Alberto, allowing him to be the first patient to ever join the former MLB greats on the field. Stearns Weaver Miller is a full-service law firm with more than 120 attorneys serving clients throughout Florida and nationwide. With offices in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa and Tallahassee, it serves business clients and government agencies with a focus on litigation, real estate, labor and employment, business restructuring, corporate and securities and local government representation.

The annual Joe DiMaggio Legends Game matches former National League stars against their American League counterparts. The 2011 roster included MLB Hall of Famer and National League Most Valuable Player Andre Dawson. The game also featured Paul Blair, one of the best defensive center fielders of his generation, John "Blue Moon" Odom and Bert Campaneris of the Oakland A's 1970s championship teams, Al Downing and the "Mad Hungarian" Al Hrabosky. There was also an appearance by "Legendary Ladies" Lefty Hohlmayer and Pepper Davis, two of the ballplayers who inspired the movie "A League of Their Own."

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Foundation ([www.jdchf.org](http://www.jdchf.org)) raises money to help underwrite the cost of programs and equipment at the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, the leading children's hospital in Broward and Palm Beach counties. The Hollywood-based facility provides state-of-the-art healthcare to children, treating everything from minor illnesses to trauma-related accidents, regardless of a family's ability to pay. Its nonprofit foundation provides philanthropic-based support for programs and equipment that would otherwise be unaffordable

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