



Welcome to Play for a Heart

Your team name is
TEAM PAULINA

Your team is named after a
little girl named **Paulina**.
Here is her story:

The only home our daughter, Paulina, ever knew was the Cardiac Unit at The Children's Hospital in Denver. During our 37 days there in 2002, my wife, Nora, and I were present at all times. We saw many families come through the Cardiac Unit with sick children, many of them infants. Most went home with their children, but a few like us were not as fortunate.

Paulina Elizabeth Grace Radz was born with a congenital heart disease. She had a double outlet right ventricle, multiple ventricular septal defects, a coarctation of the aorta, basically her little heart had multiple structural defects.

On November 22, two hours before we were to be discharged from the hospital, our pediatrician broke the news that Paulina had a serious problem and that she was going to be immediately transferred to the Cardiac Unit at The Children's Hospital.

For the next 37 days, Paulina received the best medical care available. She endured seven trips to the operating room, four days on an artificial heart machine, and a list of medications that I could never remember or repeat.

One night, as Nora and I sat with Paulina and talked about our experiences and observations in the hospital, we made a promise to ourselves and to Paulina that we would do whatever we could to help the hospital and the children they treated in the Cardiac Unit.