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Rowing For Hope: 3 Months At Sea To Fight Cancer



Reporting
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A Minnesota family is about to embark on an adventure years in the making: Rowing across the Atlantic Ocean.

On Dec. 1, Paul Ridley will board his row boat for the almost 3,000 mile trip. He'll leave from the Canary Islands and finish in Antigua in the Caribbean.

She may not be in the boat, but you could say Joy Ridley will be her brother's wingman along the way.

For three years, she's been organizing Paul's Row for Hope in the name of their parents. Their mother was diagnosed with melanoma in September 2000. She passed away just four months later at the age of 49. Their dad was diagnosed with prostate cancer six months later, but he's been cancer free since surgery.

Joy said their parents taught them to do something.

"We're not scientists and we can't cure cancer ourselves but we can row. So we came up with ocean rowing as a way to make a meaningful impact," she said.

Paul is training out east for the trip. He'll row 12 hours a day and burn 10,000 calories in the process. He's packing enough astronaut food in his small boat that will last him for what could be three months at sea.

They hope to raise a half million dollars for cancer research. The money will go to Yale Cancer Center.



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