

# PRESS RELEASE

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**Western Pennsylvania  
Chapter**

## **Pittsburgh Penguins Wives Association Shoots and Scores for Lou Gehrig's Disease**

(PITTSBURGH, PA.) (April 10, 2012) – Pittsburgh Penguins Right Wing Craig Adams (#27) and his wife Anne are keenly aware of ALS also known as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's Disease. The disease has impacted them on a very personal level.

"Three years ago my father was diagnosed with ALS. His diagnosis was heartbreaking but as a family we have decided to focus our energy on helping to find a cure for ALS and supporting people with this disease," said Anne Adams.

ALS is a neurodegenerative disease that usually attacks both upper and lower motor neurons and causes muscle degeneration throughout the body. Individuals with ALS typically survive two to five years from the time of their diagnoses. Veterans and persons serving in the military are twice as likely to get ALS.

The ALS Association Western Pennsylvania Chapter was recently presented with an \$11,232 check from the Pittsburgh Penguins Wives Association to support patient care and services for people living with ALS in Western Pennsylvania.

"Each year the Pittsburgh Penguins Wives Association donates the proceeds of our holiday gift baskets to a charity of our choice. Unbeknownst to me the other Penguins wives decided to donate this year's basket proceeds to an ALS charity in honor of myself and my father. It was a gesture that really meant a lot to me," said Mrs. Adams.

The chapter's Executive Director Merritt Holland Spier said "It is only through the generosity of individuals, groups, corporations and foundations that we are able to provide hope and help to those in need as well as fight for a cure." The ALS Association is the only national non-profit organization fighting the disease on every front. The signature fundraising event for the local Chapter is the annual Walk to Defeat ALS® which takes place on September 8, 2012 at The Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium.

Craig and Anne Adams have agreed to be the Honorary Co-Chairs of this year's Walk to Defeat ALS®. Spier said, "We are honored and excited to have Craig and Anne Adams help us in the fight against ALS."

"When we presented the check from the basket auction to the Chapter, I learned about the incredibly successful Walk to Defeat ALS® and I immediately wanted to get involved," said Adams. Last year the Walk raised over \$410,000 in Pittsburgh. This year the goal is \$500,000. The Chapter also holds a walk in Johnstown which raised over \$50,000 in 2011 for ALS.

To find out more, go to: [www.cure4als.org](http://www.cure4als.org)