

# Dead Man's Pass Ranch

Ranch Location: Comstock, TX

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*This is a very special newsletter featuring a little guy that has captured our hearts. We have watched him go through his journey with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and it has truly been heartbreaking. Taylor is an amazing, strong little boy with a smile that brightens the room and a personality that just doesn't stop. We hope you enjoy reading his story, written by his mom Brandi, as much as we have. Dead Man's Pass Ranch was proud to sponsor this hunt and making his dream come true.*

*On June 3, 2013, at age 5, Taylor was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, which is a cancer of the blood and bone marrow. About 6,000 cases are reported in the United States every year with no obvious reasons why they developed the disease. Researchers continue to study possible risk factors but have yet not reached any firm conclusions.*

*Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia carries a harsh 3-1/2 year chemotherapy treatment process. Taylor underwent intense chemotherapy for the he first six months after diagnosis. After finishing up the initial treatment, he has continued to receive monthly treatments for the past 2-1/2 years.*

## Dead Man's Pass Ranch....



....Making Dreams a Reality!

***Born into a family of avid hunters, Taylor dreamed of the day he would harvest his first buck. Being a hunter by blood, he began practicing with a bow because of his port-o-cath which is surgically implanted under the skin in his upper chest, right where the stock of the gun rests when you're shooting. There was concern that the recoil of the gun could possibly dislodge the port.***

***Taylor had been asking for years when he could go hunting but with the distance of deer camp being so far from the hospital, the risk was too much. But in 2015, it was decided to make his dream come true!***

***With doctor's approval, the hunt was scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend 2015. Taylor was one happy, excited little boy! He immediately began practicing with his Paw Paw's 22-250. He was a natural from the beginning nearly hitting the bull's eye on his first shot at 100 yards.***

***Bright and early on November 26 Taylor packed up and headed to the ranch with his uncle and step-dad. Imagine the chatter, the excitement and the energy he had on road trip to Dead Man's Pass Ranch. One can only imagine how many times he said "are we there yet"? For a 7 year old, a six hour truck ride is "forever" in his terms.***

***And so the hunt began! Taylor was decked out in his camo attire with his Uncle Chris and his step-dad, Rick, and headed to the deer stand. He sat there waiting patiently for the feeder to go off. He saw many deer, but he waited for the buck of his dreams! Lo and behold, the buck walked up to the feeder! As he sighted in his rifle on that buck, he knew it was time to take a shot at that buck. All of his practice paid off. One shot was all it took to take down his 8 point buck.***

***I got a call at 7 am with his little voice saying "Mom, guess what? I shot a buck!" He was one proud little boy! Pictures of him and his buck started rolling in on my cell phone. I couldn't help but cry happy tears!***

***Taylor had the time of his life at the ranch getting spoiled and doing what little boys should be able to do. This was a very special weekend for Taylor and a memory that will always be cherished. Moments like this are priceless.***

***A very special thank you to Mike and Jeanne McGee, Uncle Chris and the staff at Dead Man's Pass Ranch for making this an unforgettable first hunt for Taylor.***

***~ Brandi ~ (Taylor's mom)***



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