

In Support of Their Mother, Family Organizes First Annual Fire Island 5K & Festival to Benefit American Brain Tumor Association

Rockville Centre, NY - - June 28, 2007 - - Sunday August 12, 2007 will not only be a very special day for the DiGangi family of East Islip, but also for the thousands of families affected by brain tumors, as hundreds gather for the **1st Annual Fire Island 5K Run and Festival benefiting the *American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA)* in Ocean Bay Park.**

To honor their mother Rose DiGangi, who in September of 2006 began, and continues to battle, an aggressive, malignant brain tumor, the DiGangi family, led by Rose's sons John (35) and Anthony (28) decided to organize a fundraising event to support their mother's fight and to raise funds to help find a cure for this devastating disease. 100% of the net proceeds from this event will be donated to ABTA to fund brain tumor research.

There are more than 190,000 people in the United States each year that are diagnosed with brain tumors, turning their lives upside down. Because brain tumors are located at the control center for thought, emotion, and movement, their effects on an individual's physical and cognitive abilities can be devastating. Progress has been made but there is still so much that is not known.

"Our Mom has always, and continues to, support and encourage all five of her children in everything we have set out to accomplish," stated John. "Since our Mom adores nature, birding, the beach, gardening and spending time with her family and friends we figured that the scenic and family friendly Ocean Bay Park of Fire Island was a natural fit, and a prime location to host the 5K and festival," added Anthony.

Registration will take place on Saturday, August 11th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Fire Island Hotel in OceanBayPark and then from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 12th at the Fire Island Hotel before the race begins at 10:30 a.m. Goody bags, T-shirts, water, food and more will be provided to all runners. After the run there will be a festival at The Fire Island Hotel that will include raffles, a DJ, live music and a BBQ.

If anyone is interested in running, attending the festival, donating to the cause, volunteering for or sponsoring the event please visit www.thelastmileracing.com/fi5k. The Web site will provide all the necessary details about this event, which includes online registration via active.com, as well as a link to donate to the cause or sponsor the event.

The DiGangi family and friends encourage everyone to join them for a great day at the beach and help raise money for an important cause. And, most importantly, help put a smile on Rose's face.