Kevin from page A1

he'd received glucose via an intravenous line. All the while, Kevin helpe

All the while, Kevin helped to keep his younger brothers calm. When firefighters arrived, they distracted Kyle and Nathan, wholl be 3 years old on Jan. 31, who are both crary about firemen and fire trucks.

They were each given a job to Nathan got his father a pillow; Kyle led the family dog. Scout, out of the house.

"I just ean't say enough about how pleased I was with the professional care we received, dennette said. "A couple of the guys took the boys into the front of the house and taked to them. They really calmed the whole situation down."

Dad argued

At first, Mark argued about going to the hospital. But after he tried to eat something and became ill, he decided it might not be a bad idea. He stayed at Beaumont Hospital for about a day. His doctor believes a new faster-acting insulin might be to blame; now Mark makes sure he has a meal in front of him after ho's taken his shot.

His own health, however, was-

His own health, however, was-n't his main concern.

n't his main concern.

"The effect it would have on
the kids was what bothered me
the most," he said. "This was a
reminder how serious diabetes is
and a reminder to do a better job
of managing my condition."

When Jeanette got home from the hospital, she was faced with three frightened little boys. As a professional counselor, she knew it was important for them to talk a lot about what happened.

They talked about how, even though Dad was fine, the boysmight have feelings of sadness or fear or even anger. Jeanette told them it was OK to cry and to talk about how they felt.

She'd like to see a program of

to talk about how they felt.

Shed like to see a program of volunteer counseling in the community, to work with kids who've had to deal with family traumas. Jeanette is talking with officials at the Fire Dopartment about her idea, which she envisions as "neighbor helping neighbor."

neighbor."

Though he remembers being worried about his father, Kovin hasn't held onto the memories of that morning. He has other things to think about – like playing outside in the snow during his vacation and going back to school, where his favorite classes are gym and art.

Career choice?

Asked whether he'd like to be a firefighter some day, Kavin hought for a moment and said, "Maybe." But he's still undecided about what the future helds, which is not surprising for a first-grader.

Jeanette believes her son will shipe no matter what he decides

shine no matter what he decides to the And Mark thinks of his

Kevin Penny (foreground will receive an award for his quick actions when his father, Mark col-lapsed. Dad, brothers Kyle and Nathan, and his mom Jeanette are pretty proud.

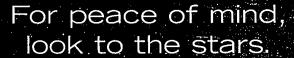
STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

oldest boy as a real hero.
"Both Kev's mom and his Aunt
Joy told me how helpful he was
that morning and how he acted
pretty grown up for a six-yearold," Mark said. "I want to be

just like him when I grow up." Seated across the dining room table from his father, Kevin laughed.
"Dad, you're already grown up, though," he said.

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