

'Tis the season all year round for these Hollywood stars as they share with *Us* the stories behind their most personal charities

BY ERIC ANDERSSON



Cox e-mailed with Perez, who passed away in October.

Courteney Cox

RAISING AWARENESS OF AN INCURABLE DISEASE

Her cause The Epidermolysis Bullosa Medical Research Foundation (ebkids.org), which raises money to find a cure for this rare, potentially deadly genetic condition; those afflicted have extremely delicate skin prone to chronic, painful blisters and scarring.

Close to home The former *Friends* star, 43, became involved more than three years ago when her manager's nephew was diagnosed. "That made it very personal to me," Cox tells *Us*.

Tragic loss In her work with EBMRF, Cox befriended EB sufferer Cristina Perez (*above*) — "a sweet and soft-spoken girl who wrote beautiful poetry," Cox says. She and husband David Arquette, 36, had Cristina's words bound and printed as a book, which the 24-year-old received just days before she passed away in October.

Show of support As a tribute to "butterfly children" (the name refers to the fragility of EB kids' skin), Cox and Arquette designed a butterfly necklace (satyajjewelry.com). Proceeds go to EBMRF.