

I am a breast cancer survivor. I am a mother of four and have been married to my husband for 25 years. I was diagnosed with breast cancer in October of 2008, when I was just 44. After a unilateral mastectomy and a full year of chemo therapy, I have learned a lot about what may contribute to breast cancer and hope to share what I have learned with all women in hopes of reducing their risks for the disease. With knowledge comes power and with that power I believe we can eliminate breast cancer in our daughter's life times. I have a 19 year old daughter who now has a family history of breast cancer – that being me, her mother.

I live in Virginia with my military husband and have two children in college and two in high school. We have lived overseas three times and in 6 different states. I am a former preschool teacher and work from home where I create handmade jewelry and run an online boutique. I write a blog about my personal battle with breast cancer where I also share how obtaining your mammogram transcribed radiologic report could save your life, or at the very least your breast, and how my physicians error led to my cancer's advancement. There, I share the ups and downs of a year in the life of a breast cancer patient, from mammogram, biopsy, diagnosis, mastectomy, chemo therapy, hair loss and beyond. It is a spiritual journey of courage and hope which serves to inspire anyone who is faced with this disease. I am also a counselor to newly diagnosed women via the Me2Online help site for women who are her2+. I am active on the planning committee bringing TheSCARProject to Washington D.C. this fall as a unique and different awareness campaign.

When I am not fighting breast cancer I enjoy walking, kayaking, photography, jewelry designing, baking, cooking, crafts and sharing a cup of coffee with a friend!