

Co-Survivor Award Story

Our story begins in 2005. My husband went for an annual physical and they found a lump and it turned out to be Testicular Cancer. We found out on Tuesday that he had cancer and Friday of the same week that I was pregnant with our only son.

Throughout my pregnancy I took care of Tim while he was going through chemo and numerous surgeries. The cancer had spread to in-between his kidneys. The surgeon said the tumor was as big as a small Nerf football.

This past summer, 2008, we tried in-vitro twice both times failing. I was devastated, but didn't know that it would be a blessing that the in-vitro didn't work. October 30th, I went in for an annual exam and told her that I felt a lump in my left breast. She sent me for an ultrasound. Nothing was found except for an enlarged duct. Come December, it was much bigger. We went to Disney World to celebrate my 30th birthday with our son and when we got back I made another appointment. Again she sent me for an ultrasound and mammogram. This was two days before Christmas. I was by myself (because I didn't think anything was wrong and we thought the lump was a bi-product of the in-vitro) at the clinic and the radiologist came in and said "You have Cancer". No "Hi," no "My name is," no "How are you doing today," just you have cancer. I was numb and now I had to call and tell my husband those awful words... I have cancer. We have already gone through this once and now during the Holidays.

Needless to say, our Christmas was different this year. Then on New Years Eve, I had my first surgery, a biopsy of my left breast, which turned out to be stage 3 HER-2 positive breast cancer. I started chemo in January.

Now was my husband's turn to be the caretaker. What a wonderful job he did. He had to work, take care of me, drive me to doctor's appointments, take care of the house, and take care of our 3-year-old son. There was no complaining just love and support.

So I think we bring a whole new meaning to co-survivor. We are both survivors now. I actually scheduled my bi-lateral mastectomy for June 2 so we could walk in this great event.

Sincerely

Kimberly H.

Kimmi's Army to Save Second Base