

Althea Ross

I am a 2-time survivor of breast cancer, with 2 different types of breast cancer in the same breast in the same site. With God, the people that loved me enough to make it through the treatments and the surgeries, a positive attitude, great medical practices, I survived. The first time around (2003) I had a lumpectomy, received 8 rounds of chemo and 33 rounds of radiation and breast reconstruction. I didn't start with a positive attitude, I started with a pity party, losing my hair, being sick and having that wonderful metallic taste in my mouth, as the months when by, sleeping in 45 minute sprints, zoom zoom all the time and all of my food tasting funny I turned in to my bible and gospel music to soothe me. While listening to gospel music in the middle of the night, the words stayed with me and I realized that this is my journey and God's plan. From this point on, for every negative thing that was going on in my life I found the positive and kept it moving, realizing with my strength and positive attitude I can help others. On to 2015 I was work force reduced/retired from my job of 17 years, diagnosed with breast cancer and lung cancer all in a 3 month time frame. In 2016 (March 2016) I had the upper right lobe of my lung removed happy to say I am lung cancer free. In April of 2016 I had a double mastectomy and reconstructive surgery, since the surgeries I have found out that I am allergic to Arimidex, Femara, and Tamoxifen, I am currently taking Aromasin. I am working and in October of 2016 I will have additional surgery as port of the reconstruction. The journey continues.