

Roxanne Loudenslager

Roxanne Loudenslager didn't think she would ever get breast cancer. After a multi-year battle with skin cancer, she figured cancer was not in the cards.

That all changed in December 2013.

Following her yearly routine mammogram in December 2013, Roxanne received an immediate request to schedule a follow-up appointment. A second mammogram (diagnostic) and a needle biopsy confirmed DCIS (Ductal Carcinoma *in situ*) and an oncology radiation regime followed by five (5) years of tamoxifen was proposed. Comfortable with the proposed treatment procedure, Roxanne moved forward. Two lumpectomy surgeries resulted in clean margins. Radiation followed with few side



effects, aside from fatigue and tiredness. Today, four (4) months into tamoxifen, Roxanne is back at the gym regularly and continues to walk her dog almost daily. She credits her piece of mind during treatment to two nurses at her treatment center, who provided her with encouragement as well as written materials, support and attendance at her first radiation appointment.

“Establishment of a good rapport with your surgeon, medical oncologist, radiation oncologist and cancer center support staff is important,” explained Roxanne. “These folks are information and support.”

Today, Roxanne has a focused mission and message on the importance of breast health that she looks forward to sharing with others—young and old. After doing an interview with the Burlington Times News in October 2014 for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, she was invited

to become a 2015 Face of Breast Cancer with Komen Northwest NC. She is continuing this role for 2016.

“If I can help one woman who would not have a mammogram or put one off, being a Face is such a easy thing to do,” says Roxanne, “Life is precious and the opportunity to give back is vital.”

Through her role as a 2016 Face of Breast Cancer in Alamance County, Roxanne looks forward to continue helping others—using her own experiences in spreading the message of advocacy for breast health that breast cancer can strike at any age, and that Komen Northwest NC is here to help. She is encouraging everyone to go “get screened—with resources available to everyone, there’s no reason not to.”