

This is my Story... Patty Jobe



I am one of those people who always goes to the doctor every year, because that is what you are supposed to do. I heard many times dense tissue and let's biopsy this or that. I even visited a surgeon twice before he told me, no worries. But this last time it was different. What was supposed to just be routine quickly became something else. The technician said oh, I see shadows let me try again... and again ... and again. I could tell by her non poker face something was up. And so, a biopsy was done, and I was sent home. The Radiologist called very soon and said you have breast cancer and then proceeded to have a coughing fit and said I have to go now. Imagine my surprise dropping a bomb on you and then that's it. Anyway, the Radiologist did call me back, explained breast cancer and said I need to go see a surgeon. When I went to the surgeon the first thing he did was to draw was one of those circles with lumpectomy in the middle and drew a big line through it. Too many spots too far apart mastectomy is the only way to go. So double mastectomy with DIEP surgery here I come. My surgery went fine although I seriously recommend discussing with your reconstruction surgeon what the outcome of your surgery will be. I woke up with serious Dolly Parton breasts on steroids. Seriously, they were so big!!! Anyway, I had many more complications from surgery but eventually had a second reconstruction which resulted in a much better outcome for me. After my surgery I started having some annoying problems which lead to a brain MRI and the diagnosis of small brain tumor that put me on the watch and wait list.

My diagnosis led to two of my friends getting overdue mammograms. One of those friends found out that she had breast cancer, so I guess my problems helped someone else! This friend was referred to Thrivewell for help and then she called me and said you should join Thrivewell. And here I am.