

In honor of Barb Jackson



Sandy



Tom



Cindy



Jeff



Kelly



Jon



I am Barb Jackson and this is my story.

On my birthday in September of 2004 my surgeon gave me the results from a breast biopsy. He told me it was cancer and I would need another surgery to make sure he got it all. On October 6th, 2004 I had the second surgery. In November, we went to Colorado and stayed with our daughter until March of 2005. I had 30 radiation treatments while in Colorado. The good news is, the breast cancer hasn't returned.

In April of 2005, I started having trouble seeing in my left eye. Upon seeing an eye doctor, it was determined that my vision in that eye was 20/200 and I would need cataract surgery. I had the surgery on May 4th.

When I went back to see the doctor on May 13th, I was told I needed to see an eye specialist. I saw the specialist on May 20th and was told I had cancer in that eye. I needed surgery, but he referred me to a surgeon closer to our home. I had a consultation with the surgeon on May 23rd and on May 26th my left eye was removed. The diagnoses was melanoma. I was told the melanoma was all contained in the eye. No further treatment was necessary for that cancer.

In the fall of 2006, I was sent for a lung biopsy and it was determined that I had cancer in my right lung. On November 22nd I had surgery to remove the lesion. In January of 2007, I started 30 radiation treatments and 4 chemotherapy treatments for the lung cancer. This cancer was a carcinoma.

In July of 2006, I had a bump on my head which my primary physician thought was a sebaceous cyst. I made an appointment for him to remove it in August. He immediately realized it was not a cyst and sent me to a surgeon who did a biopsy and again, on my birthday, told me it was melanoma. He also told me he would have to do surgery again to be sure he had removed all of the melanoma. He removed three other lesions on my head and they were all melanoma. At that time, I was sent to the Melanoma Clinic at the University of Michigan Hospital. I was told I have "cutaneous metastatic disease" to the scalp which classifies as Stage IV cancer. Since that time I have had 8 - 10 melanoma lesions removed from my head and one removed from my side after my lung surgery.

On November 7th of 2007, I had 3 lymph nodes removed from my chest and one of those contained melanoma. Since December of 2007, I have been treated with a chemotherapy in pill form.

Since November 2007 I have CT Scans every three months and at this time the chemo pills seem to be keeping things under control.

In the past 3 1/2 years I have been very fortunate in that I have suffered very little pain. The Lord has been very good to me and continues to be with me. He helps me to have a positive outlook. I don't know what my future holds, but I know Who holds my future.

In October 2006 one of my doctors said that I probably wouldn't be here for Christmas of 2007. In May of 2008 my husband and I celebrated 54 years of marriage and I look forward to celebrating many more.

Barbara's daughter, Kelly Jackson, is a long time employee of Neoteric Cosmetics, a Denver based skin care company. In 2007, Neoteric® Cosmetics launched a new line of simple affordable skin care products called Alpha Hydrox® White. One dollar from the sale of each Alpha Hydrox® White Introductory Kit was donated to the Noreen O'Neill Foundation for Melanoma Research in honor of Barbara Jackson. Neoteric® Cosmetics will continue their support of this worthy cause again this year.