



EDITH P. WRIGHT
BREAST CANCER
FOUNDATION™



EPW Pink Stars





Words of Wisdom

Breast Cancer is a Journey I never planned or asked for, BUT I choose to LOVE LIFE, HATE THE DISEASE AND FIGHT!

Birthplace : Washington, D.C.

Date diagnosed with cancer : 4/25/2012

Years a Survivor : 4 years 5 months


Nicole Rogers

In 2012, Nicole's yearly exam with her OB/GYN on her 30th Birthday (April 25) revealed a lump in her right breast. She would later discover a lump in her left breast a year later. Thus began her journey as a triple negative breast cancer survivor, as well as enduring 15 surgeries along the way. Nicole has been an active member of the EPW Breast Cancer Foundation and the Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Support Group in Southwest DC for more than two years and other local support groups where she continues to share her story and ongoing journey. In November 2014, she shared her story to a well-received roundtable discussion at Kaiser with other prominent advocates. She is also a loving, caring mother to her son Elijah. Realizing the importance of giving hope and inspiration to others, Nicole is now the new coordinator for the Young Survival Coalition of Southern Maryland. Instead of Nicole nominating herself for this award, she thought it not robbery to nominate someone whom was newly diagnosed with breast cancer, and uplift them with the hopes of them winning the award instead herself. That is why we are honored to name Nicole Rogers as one of the Inaugural 2016 EPW Pink Print Party Stars!



Mary Jackson

My mother is a 17 year survivor that has dedicated her life to helping cancer patients as an oncology social worker before becoming a survivor herself. She has been a volunteer for sisters network triangle chapter for over 10 years prior to moving to MD 3 years ago. She serves as an advocate for Komen promise and DOD's TVA grants. She also, currently is a therapist for cancer patients serving the MD area. She inspires me as she has never stopped helping others even when she has been in need of help herself.

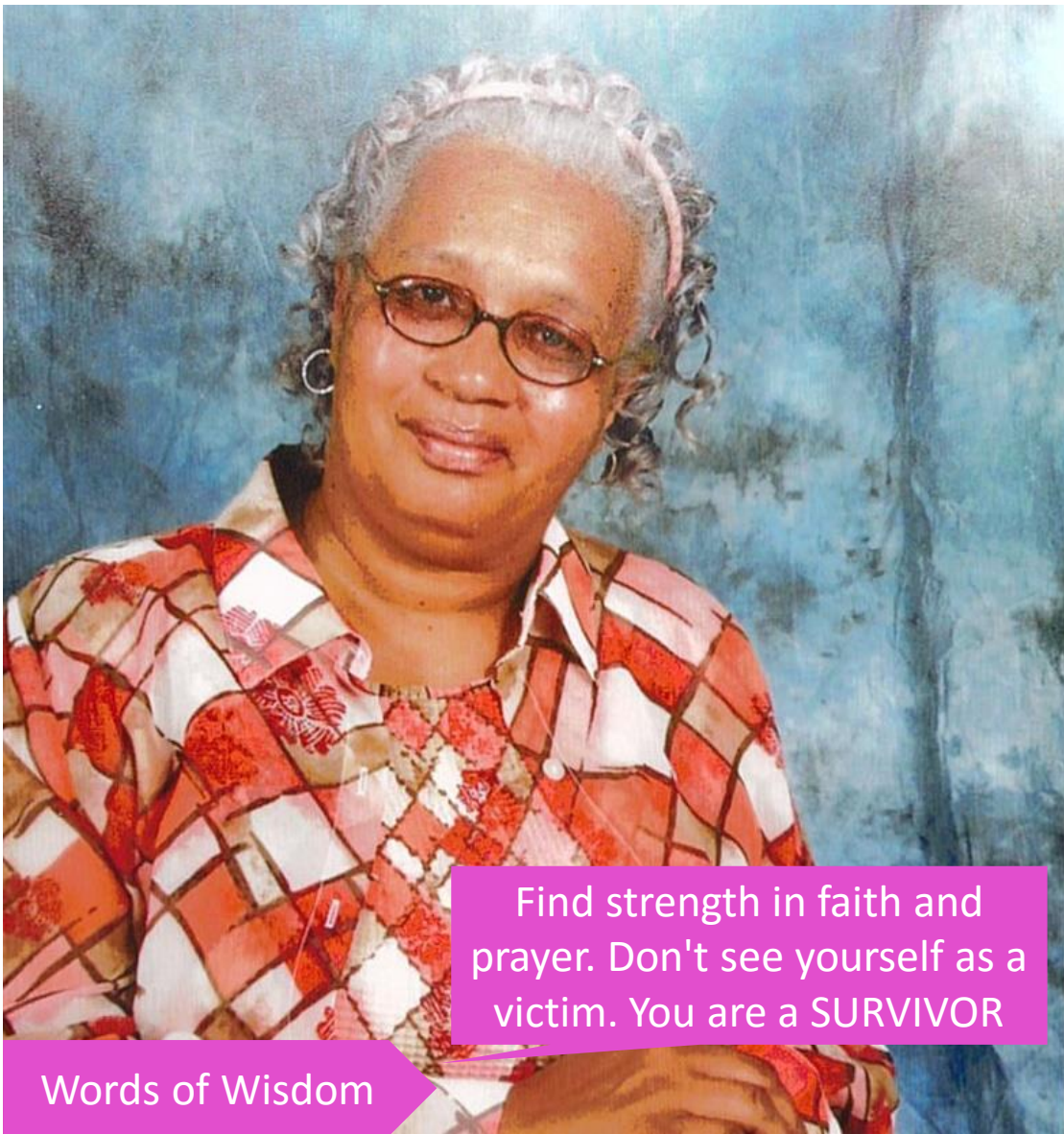
A portrait of Mary Jackson, a woman with short dark hair, wearing a blue dress and a diamond necklace. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera.

Life is full of mountains and valleys we must climb to be victorious and free to live each day to its fullest

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace : Roxboro, North Carolina
Date diagnosed with cancer : 1/24/1999
Years a Survivor : 17 years 8 months





Words of Wisdom

Birthplace : Baltimore, Maryland

Date diagnosed with cancer : 10/1/2007

Years a Survivor : 9 years

Joan Lucille Smith

My youngest sister was diagnosed with Stage 4 Breast Cancer at the age of 57. Despite the struggle of having her cancer metastasized, she still worked, worshipped and took care of her family. Until things became too difficult with treatments. Only then did she retire from the state. I knew nothing about this disease until my sister was diagnosed. My sister seldom complained about anything that she was going through. She is a soft spoken woman with a beautiful spirit, that adores and appreciates life including her love for her daughter April and her three grandchildren. The Doctors weren't sure my baby sister was going to make it but she did! My sister is still very active in her church serving as a Pastor Aid and serving on Senior Members Committee at her church. Now eight years later with her cancer in remission she still receives monthly treatments. This hasn't stopped her zest for life she still enjoys a good laugh, music with a chance to show off her dance moves.





Judith L. Fitzgerald

Judith is truly a phenomenal inspiration to not only the community, but to her family, friends Sorority sisters and me!! God has blessed this woman to share her gifts through mentorship and encourages everyone she comes in contact with. While multi tasking with family responsibilities, she volunteers/assists our sorority(Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in doing community service projects that has a positive impact in the community. She engages herself to promote unity amongst citizens which enlightens individuals in a positive way! I love her spirit and as a breast cancer survivor she takes nothing in life for granted! She is truly a wonderful gem and With high regards I nominate this phenomenal woman because she's a Black girl who rocks!!

When life throws you a curve ball, you learn to focus on the things in your life that are the most important and celebrate God's grace and mercy!

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace : Baltimore, Maryland

Date diagnosed with cancer : 2/6/2016

Years a Survivor : 7 months





My words of wisdom would be to keep the faith, stay strong in Gods word and know he got you and will never leave you.

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace : San Antonio, Texas

Date diagnosed with cancer : 5/15/2014

Years a Survivor : 2 years 4 months

Jocelyn Porter

Mrs. Jocelyn Porter helps in so many ways with senior citizens in her community, from spa treatment to food, giving and assisting with anything they stand in need of, and she is a senior herself, she loves Gods people and always willing to serve and be blessing, Jocelyn has a big heart and so full of life, I choose this wonderful woman of God because God chose her first, she would give her last of anything to bless someone else, Father God thank you for Jocelyn Porter.





Words of Wisdom

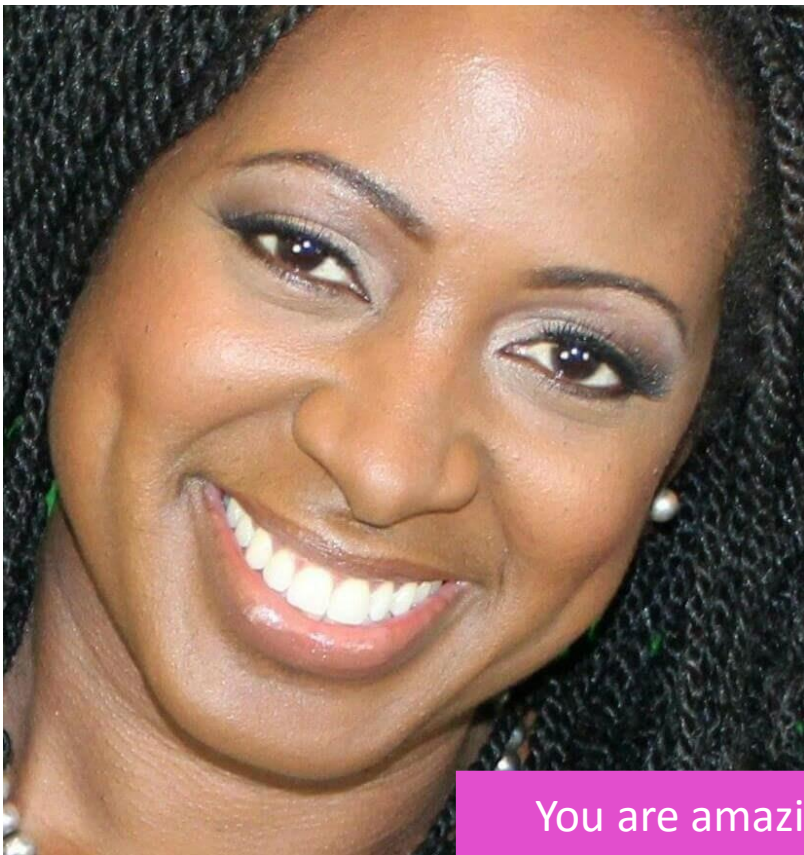
Stay strong stay positive yolo

Birthplace : Prince Georges County, MD
Date diagnosed with cancer : 6/23/2015
Years a Survivor : 1 year 3 months

Lanita Marie Boger

I would like to nominate my friend Lanita Boger, aka “Neda”. She was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer last year, at the age of 28! She is a mom, with a daughter named Rhianna "Re" who is 10 years old. I was blown away when I found out. She is so young. But cancer does not care about age, race or anything. We grew up in the same neighborhood. She lived across the street from me and her family always treated me like family. I moved to Kentucky, but was able to see her on Facebook. Neda went through surgeries chemo AND radiation. She is a strong black woman. Even when she knew her hair was going to fall out, she got a haircut with a design shaved in! That’s courage with a swag! She completed her last surgery a month ago and is now cancer free! I’m so thankful for her and our friendship. She deserves to be on the EPW Pink Party Bus Tour because she is more than a breast cancer survivor, she is a breast cancer Warrior and a Diva all in one!





You are amazing, you can do anything, continue to have hope, and stay in prayer. And remember to laugh, love, and live (like your life depends on it!)

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace : Cleveland, Ohio

Date diagnosed with cancer : 8/7/2015

Years a Survivor : 1 year 1 month

Melinda K. Thomas

Melinda is one of the most positive people I have ever met. She is a wonderful inspiration and role model to all ! she has a big heart for the kids and guides them in her profession as a school counselor, but she also truly cares. She is always positive always looking out for, helping and serving others and she is a source of motivation for me and has been for several years. Before being diagnosed with breast cancer, Mel was running marathons, exercising 5-6 days a week and always with a smile and she lost over 50 lbs.! I followed her through the journey and was motivated to join the gym and work on being more fit and eating better. I was devastated by the loss of my husband and eventually stopped going. Mel was still there shining bright and with that wonderful smile of hers and she also helped me deal with issues I was facing with my children during that time. I eventually got back to the gym and got back on the wagon. Then I hit another bad spot. Mel was diagnosed with breast cancer and she handled it like a champion... still smiling that big bright beautiful smile, still believing and praising God and after several surgeries, she was right back at it at the gym. I said to myself that if Mel can go through all of that and get right back up again, I can at least try. Melinda K. Thomas is a bright shining star of inspiration and deserves to be celebrated !





LIVE

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace Baltimore , Maryland

Date diagnosed with cancer : 8/2004 & 8/2014

Years a Survivor : 12 years 1 month

Shay Sharpe

I proudly nominate a courageous woman---Shay Sharpe, a two-time breast cancer survivor who was diagnosed at ages 26 & 36. Despite her continuous struggles with complications from her double mastectomy, she dedicates her life's work to raising funds for other breast cancer survivors, as president and founder of Shay Sharpe's Pink Wishes (a non-profit organization that grants wishes to children and young women affected by breast cancer). Shay carried out the organization's mission while raising her daughter and managing a breast cancer recurrence. Shay's giving spirit mirrors the Edith P. Wright Foundation and personifies the word "survivor."





Continue to be active and
accepting love and support
from family and friends

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace: Atlanta, Georgia

Date diagnosed with cancer : Mar-09

Years a Survivor : 7 years 6 months

Cardrienne Perrin Griffin

Cardrienne P. Griffin, a phenomenal woman of God, wife of 58 years, mother of 4, grandmother of 8, great-grandmother to 1, and role model. She epitomizes strength and courage as a cancer survivor; having lost her beloved mother and middle daughter both to breast cancer. Yet, she continues being a pillar of strength to our family. Mrs. Griffin, AKA "Big Mama", has a sense of humor coupled with southern charm and grace. As a retired Educator, she diligently volunteers in many service organizations (i.e., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Wo-Be-Co, Spokettes, Modern Grannies) enriching the people and community of Baltimore.





The best thing to do is PRAY!

Words of Wisdom

Birthplace: Annapolis, Maryland

Date diagnosed with cancer : 9/1/1986

Years a Survivor : 30 years

Della Louise Allen

In early fall 1986, while doing a self-exam, Della felt a small lump in her right breast. At about the same time, her youngest sister, Irene (Rena) Offer, received a diagnosis of breast cancer in her left breast. They both underwent a biopsy to confirm the diagnosis. Rena had a radical mastectomy in September 1986 and followed up with chemotherapy and radiation treatment. As Rena left the hospital from her surgery, Della went into the hospital to have a radical mastectomy; however, Della did not require chemotherapy or radiation as the cancer was completely removed during the surgery. Della and Rena continued to support each other throughout their recovery, Della often attending appointments with Rena as she continued chemotherapy and radiation. The sisters shared holidays, laughter and the joyous occasion of seeing their daughters attend prom and graduate high school together in June 1987. As Rena continued to fight, the cancer spread to her lymph nodes and eventually to her brain. Della become her sister's caretaker throughout her fight with cancer – staying at Rena's home for weeks at a time to care for her. Oftentimes, Della was the only person Rena wanted around. Rena fought bravely for two years until she succumbed to cancer in August 1988 with Della and her family at her bedside. (continued)



Words of Wisdom

The best thing to do is PRAY!

Birthplace: Annapolis, Maryland

Date diagnosed with cancer : 9/1/1986

Years a Survivor : 30 years

Della Louise Allen

In many ways, Della expressed survivor's remorse because she didn't have the challenges faced by her sister and she was left as the only surviving sister. This was a big deal for the family considering the health challenges both of the sisters endured over that past year. Della is cancer free 30 years later – she has no traces or signs of cancer other than the scar from her mastectomy. She often talks about the fateful day when she discovered the small lump in her breast. She believes her self-examination saved her life and she often reminds others to self-check often and get mammograms annually. Della is the matriarch of her family. She has two sons, one daughter, ten grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews who enjoy her quick wit, “tell it like it is” wisdom, and her anecdotes about life! She attributes her life and survivorship to the most important man in her life – Jesus Christ!

