

**Nancy Molka, 2015 Susan G. Komen Inland Empire Race for the Cure®
Honorary New Balance Breast Cancer Survivor**

Nancy Molka My Story...

I was first diagnosed at age 36 in 1992 with breast cancer in my left breast and had 14 lymph nodes involved with breast cancer cells. I was stage 3 when diagnosed. I underwent a mastectomy, 6 months chemotherapy and 6 weeks radiation. Following that I was on tamoxifen for 5 years. In 2002 I was diagnosed with breast cancer in my right breast, had a mastectomy and 6 months chemotherapy.

In June 2006 the cancer spread to my hip bones and I underwent 15 radiation treatments in my left hip and in December 2007 it spread to my lower back and I underwent another 15 treatments in my back area. Again I was put on chemotherapy.

July 2008 I found lump in my neck and a rash on my back. Both were biopsied and showed positive for breast cancer. Again chemotherapy.

In August 2009 a PET scan showed cancer cells in the lining around my lung and I again started chemotherapy - 3 weeks on 1 off which I was on for 3 years.

In March 2015 three active lesions were diagnosed in my brain. Panic set in but after speaking to my oncologist I realized they had a plan for this. 5 sessions of radio surgery (non-invasive surgery done with radioactive waves) were done over a week period. Again minimal side effects – mostly fatigue.

I'm blessed in that during all of my cancer treatments I've worked fulltime. Fatigue right now is my constant side effect and the company I work for understands that and works with me through it.

This has been a long and challenging road for me. Something you never ever stop thinking about. I'm now living with a chronic disease called breast cancer. Formal name is: Metastatic infiltrating ductal carcinoma - advanced breast cancer that has spread to other parts of the body. But many people live with chronic diseases – diabetes, emphysema, and many others.

A cancer diagnosis is no longer what it once was. Treatment for breast cancer has come a long way since



I was first diagnosed 23 years ago. And it's only through research that treatments become available. That's why I'm so proud of the money raised by my daughter and myself for the Susan G. Komen organization – through them more research is being done and more women who have not had access to cancer diagnosis and treatment are being helped. It's my pleasure to work with the Komen Inland Empire Affiliate and participate in the Susan G. Komen Inland Empire Race for the Cure®... I hope to do this for a long long time!

Photo: Daughter Samantha, Jason and Nancy