

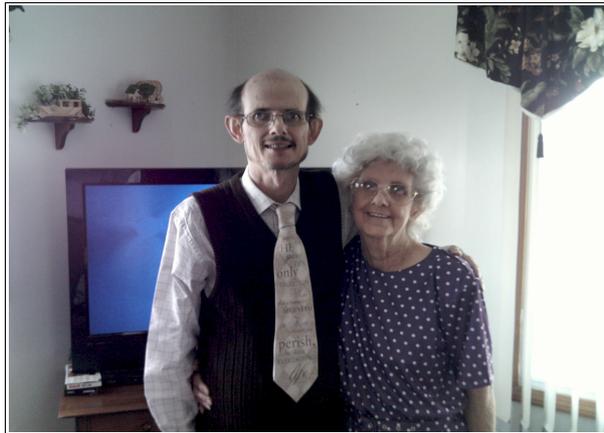


## TITANS OF TEAL

Christin Nicholson

### CANCER SUCKS!!

On Nov 7th of '09 my best friend died of lung cancer, at the age of 41... then my brother in law had two heart failure's followed by grandma then my best friend's sister to cancer! We had just lost my husband's best friend to colon cancer 3 weeks ago... I never heard the word *cancer* growing up and now it seems it's ALL you hear! My great -grandma (who raised me till I was 6) passed away from cancer about 10 yrs ago.... I've been through about 20 deaths in the last 2 yrs and it's sad when a funeral home knows you by name..... not *all* were cancer but half were, that's why it's such a big deal to me and why I want to get more involved.....wish I knew *how*!?



*Grandma & Markie*

My story is about my mother in law **LETHA ANN NICHOLSON**- She was 75 yrs old when she lost her battle with ovarian cancer!! She was diagnosed (if I am not mistaken) around the end of '07. She only had her ovaries so they did the surgery and removed them. About a month later she went back to the doctor and they had told her she needed to do chemo because they thought that when they did the surgery that some of the cancer cells had got into her blood stream and said it would be best if she did the treatments! She was so discouraged knowing that she would lose her hair but she went ahead and did the treatments! She lost her hair but never gave up fighting and always had a good attitude and still took care of my father in law and brother in law (bro n law who was born with heart problems)!

About 6 months or so after doing chemo, they said she was done with the treatments and she was so excited because her hair started growing back in and when it was long enough I'd fix it for her and one of my favourite memories was when her hair was long enough she got to go get a perm... she was so cute!

When she came home, she was glowing... she got her 'oomph' back!!

She was doing really well for about a year then she went in for a check up- they gave us the bad news that the cancer had come back, this time in the lining of her stomach! It was just a few tiny tiny spots but she needed to do chemo again. This chemo wouldn't make her lose her hair and it was only twice a month and it should take care of them spots!! Well, in Feb 2010 we took her to the hospital because she couldn't go to the bathroom... they rushed her into surgery because she had a huge mass that collapsed her bowel (they had to cut her from her breast to her pelvic bone!) They continued with the chemo and it didn't work... they tried 2 different one's and none of them worked! In the beginning of May 2010 her doctors told her that they would try one more kind of chemo and if it didn't work they would send her home on hospice as there was nothing else they could do for her! On May 27<sup>th</sup>, my brother in law passed away due to heart failure and 4 days after we buried him we had her rushed back to the ER where the doctors kept her over night, telling us there was nothing else they could do, sending her home on hospice! I was by her side everyday from 8 in the morning to 9 at night and that woman was *so* strong.... Mind you, when we sent her to the ER those spots were still tiny... they never grew any bigger... but the day they quit her chemo (within 6 weeks) they went from being microscopic to her looking ready to give birth!! The last 6 weeks of her life was basically spent in bed and after 4 weeks she could no longer eat so the last 2 weeks she only had popsicles made of water! Letha was a very Godly-woman and had followed God her whole life. One of the most amazing memories was when I asked her (towards the end) if she has seen JESUS and she responded "*No, not yet*" then 2 days before she passed away my husband came in and said: "*Momma, have you seen JESUS?*" and she said "*Oh yes son, I see him all the time ...he's here now and he;s wonderful!*"

She passed away with me and papa holding her hands at 4:05pm on July 17th 2010 !

She asked me one thing when they told her she was going to pass away and that was to make sure when I had a hysterectomy, to make sure they took it all and I promised her I would... I feel like I broke that promise to her because

I had my hysto on Aug 4th of this yr and they took everything *but* my ovaries!

So that's my story... I know there's more but I'm crying and my brain's going crazy thinking about it so hope you can understand it. You can go to <http://www.parker mortuary.com> and look up her name where you can see a video I made of her to get a good sense of what an amazing person she was! Thanks for reading my story!

Christin Nicholson

