



## “LOVE WINS”

Honoring Jennifer Beaumont Q. 4 2020 and 2022 GoTeam

SUBMITTED BY HER FRIEND BRE MILLER, former president of the Corvallis Knights)

Jennifer Beaumont would have been looking forward to her 42nd birthday in January, 2024. She passed away from a 3-year battle with lung cancer on June 25 2023, two days after we celebrated her at the ballpark with ‘Strike Out Cancer Night’. The team wore custom jerseys and hats to honor Jennifer and her love for the team. Jennifer was the General Manager of the Corvallis Knights, a summer collegiate wood-bat baseball team. She watched every game from her home and Mike Parker, the voice of the Beavers and the Knights would make comments to her through the LiveStream. We all wished she could have attended one last game.

Jennifer’s passions were her community and the baseball team. She always put others first. She loved volunteering for different non-profits and the local chamber of commerce. Her attitude through her fight with cancer was incredible and inspiring. To the end, she had purpose, as she did everything in her power to bring community together and help her coworkers. Jenn worked for the team throughout her entire battle. Jennifer grew up in Albany, Oregon where she resided with her husband Aaron and two dogs. As a youth, she participated in sports, choir, 4-H and FFA. Jenn was a graduate of South Albany High School and Oregon State University. She loved her Chicago RedHawks and OSU Beavers. Jenn also loved to travel, and she experienced many amazing places in her lifetime.

I think if Jenn wanted you to take away something from this contribution she would say to love more and make it about others. That is how Jenn lived until her last breath. She was an incredible human being and if you had the chance to know her you are a better person because of it.



## “HIGHER EDUCATION IS BETTER FOR EVERYONE”

BY RIKI MARIE (WOLGAMOTT) BEDNAR (KickinCancer Blogmaster)

Dad was proud to serve in the Navy back in the early 1950s. I recall the stories. He had been on an aircraft carrier as a mechanic for four years.

He also slept on the top bunk bed and drew himself up to his bunk by the pipes that were incased in an asbestos covering. In June of 1978, 25 years later, he was diagnosed with Mesothelioma cancer. It was devastating to us as we were told he had 6 months left. He spent 17 years as an educator/coach, and he touched so many lives. He is well remembered by many in the Rogue Valley. Unfortunately, he had no way of knowing that he wasn’t going to be there for his children and potential grandchildren. Today, I know that he is proud of all of us as he looks down from Heaven.



Riki Marie honoring her father Richard

Richard Wolgamott left this earthly plane in January of 1979, I was in my early 20’s. As I look back over the last 40+ years, I have really strived

to be the person that would make my dad proud. I can recall several conversations as he was going through his teaching/ coaching career about everyone needing a good education. This made an impact! I also had a wonderful opportunity to have him as my teacher and my high school basketball coach. The girl’s team took 4th in State in the AA category. As we were nearing the end of 1978, there were many other conversations on the topic of furthering my education. He was not able to finish his Masters program in education, and this was now important to me. His last words, he shared with me was “Don’t worry about it, go back to school.” I never forgot!

We had a wonderful representative at the Veterans Affairs, and because of his illness, the veteran related educational benefits were available to me, my brother and sister. I received this and received my first degree in business administration in 1983. I later went back to school and received my teaching certificate for elementary education and taught for 26 years, and during that time I did go back and get my masters. His teaching legacy lives on in me, my daughter and niece. My dad really felt that higher education is better for everyone, and believed strongly in teaching people how to think, not what to think and to get out there and be active.

## QUARTERLY THOUGHT SMALL PROGRESS IS STILL PROGRESS!

BY CHERYL GOOD

I came to KickinCancer when my friend Julianna desperately asked me to help our friend Rachel. She had gone into the hospital for knee surgery and left devastated to be diagnosed with bone cancer. She was struggling financially as she couldn’t work and her husband was missing work for appointments. She needed money for 3 kids’ school expenses, the landlord requiring them to move, and take care of the unexpected medical expenses. Within a few weeks we were organizing GoTeam Rachel events.

What started as just hope and prayer was soon fully materialized into a full-on fundraising campaign for Rachel. This was only possible because of the logistical and emotional support from KickinCancer.

After that experience I knew there were definitely others who also had a hope and prayer and wanted to help a loved one in their cancer journey. So when I was invited to be on the KickinCancer board, I knew it just had to happen. Now I’m honored to be the

Support Director where I’m creating programs to support more than ever before! KickinCancer started with just 1 person creating a community to help 1 person on their cancer journey. And that KickinCancer Guy, and his team, helped me do the same in Corvallis. Knowing that cancer has no city, state or global boundaries, we know there are other “Baron’s” and “Cheryl’s” out there as we have worked with them! So from the desire to serve, an expanded program idea has sprouted. Introducing KickinCancer Communities! Each KickinCancer Community starts with one person who has a mission to serve their community and is aligned with our mission. That KickinCancer Guide, creates a team and identifies needs in their community. With the support of the KickinCancer organization, myself, and a team I’m developing, they have access to all the tools, resources and connections to accomplish their self-chosen goals. More importantly they get the moral support and recognition to continue doing their great mission. The first KickinCancer community will be in Vancouver Washington with Mikki Meisner as the KickinCancer GUIDE.