



Terry Olberding

My twin sister and I shared many things in life. We grew up in South Knoxville, and attended the same schools, played in the same parks, swam in the same swimming pool. Although we were fraternal twins, our Mother still dressed us in matching outfits. We shared so many wonderful childhood memories. Even into adulthood we shared many activities and enjoyed each other's company. Unfortunately, we also had another thing in common - breast cancer. Sherry was diagnosed in 2005 at the age of 49. Although we had a cousin who had developed breast cancer at an early age, we were still shocked. I suppose we all think it won't happen to us. As Sherry underwent surgeries and radiation treatment, we became all too aware of breast cancer's impact. That is when we first joined the Susan G. Komen fight against breast cancer. At first Sherry was a Race for the Cure team leader, and then she spearheaded the local effort to establish the Tennessee license plate with the pink hope ribbon, which has generated more than \$750,000 so far for the 6 Tennessee affiliates of Susan G. Komen. I was right there with her, walking on her team, and helping collect signatures for the license plate. When I, too, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2010, Sherry provided advice and comfort during those confusing times. Although we were fraternal twins, our breast cancer was not hereditary (less than 10% are hereditary). Sherry's cancer returned, and she lost her fight against breast cancer, but gained a heavenly home, in 2013. I will always remember the kindness of the Komen Knoxville staff. I have remained active in the fight against breast cancer, and support many of the Komen Knoxville activities including being the captain of the Jazzercise Race for the Cure Team for the past several years. I am fortunate - my cancer is in remission. My sister was not so lucky. I cannot get her back, but I can try to make a difference for our children and grandchildren. This is why I am proud to support the Susan G. Komen organization in the fight against breast cancer.