

Mary Ackman

I was diagnosed January 8, 2010 with stage I Breast Cancer. I met with doctors January 13th and had a mastectomy January 20th, the same day my granddaughter Gailee was born. I underwent 4 months of chemo in Mitchell. Due to an inactive periodontal disease, I had to have all my teeth pulled shortly after my 2nd chemo treatment. I also have rheumatoid arthritis. I had more support than any person could imagine from my family near and far, co-workers both at school and from the town of Letcher, as well as my community (both school and town). I had wonderful, caring, medical staff. The prayer and love of so many carried me through my rough days. I will stress repeatedly that attitude is a big part of recovery. I would like to recognize a few others who have fought the battle, such as Stacy Morgan, Carol Johnson, Deb Moody, and Joyce Ackman. These individuals were all inspirational influences for me during my battle. Cancer isn't always a death sentence, but stop and appreciate what you have, smell the roses, and embrace each day with those you love!