WELCOME TO OUR HOPE PROJECT'S

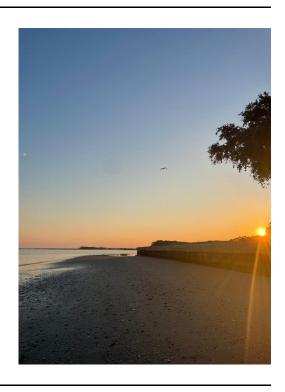
Tuesday Newsletter

We're so glad you're here!

What we are about.....

HOPE

This newsletter aims to bring hope and joy to your daily life by sharing my family's journey through unexpected challenges. We firmly believe that a positive outlook, faith, and the right circle of friends will help you tackle any obstacle with resilience and a smile. In the upcoming editions, we will candidly share our recent experiences dealing with another of life's interruptions.



Meet the Parker Family

From left to right- my wife, hero, and best friend, Trina. My oldest daughter and copywriter, Grace. My youngest daughter and social media coordinator, Anna. I (Nick), the owner, content creator, and editor.

Christmas 2022 Celebration

I-R

Nanna (Sylvia Parker), Anna Parker, Grace Parker, Katie Parker (Niece)



The Interruption after Parkinson's Disease

...December 22, 2022 (Deep Brain Stimulator activation day) will forever be a day of victory in our fight against the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease. Little did I know the celebration would be short-lived.

I was now fifty-two years old and decided it was time to have a full physical. I had been suffering from GERD (Gastroesophageal reflux disease), better known as acid reflux. I scheduled an Upper and Lower Endoscopy at <u>Covenant Health</u> and pulled some strings to get it done on January 3rd just after ringing in 2023. I found myself summoned back to the office on January 8, 2023. Anytime a medical facility asks you to return that quickly, I recommend "bracing for impact". Armed with the photo's of the Upper Endoscopy I received the news, "you have Esophageal Cancer". Yes, just a couple of weeks into our victory lap over Parkinson's Disease, THIS, stage 2-3 Invasive Adenosquamous Carcinoma. During the initial shock, I asked, "what does that mean?" and the G.I. doctor replied, "a healthy person with this diagnosis has a 50% chance of being alive AND cancer-free in one year." Later, my wife Trina remarked, "It was like a twisted joke."

I was reeling but not panicked, somehow I understood I was prepared for this....probably because my best friend was with me this time. Now we had to decide how, when and who to inform of the diagnosis.... Tough conversations with God, family and friends....

(....to be continued)

After having the privilege of forming relationships with so many people who are walking through similar life interruptions it is amazing that somehow in the back of my mind I assumed one chronic illness diagnosis was all a person was allowed in life. Believe it or not, this may sound crazy, but it's actually a widely held, fleeting misconception.

Coming Next Week

Tough Conversations....

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