

FOUNDATION

We recognize the physical and emotional toll breast cancer can have on both a patient and their family. Forever Pink Foundation is here to help with the financial stress. With the help and support of donors we are able to provide patients with support for wigs, rent, utilities, medical expenses not covered by insurance. To date, we have provided over \$19,000 in patient grants. Making a difference in their lives, is why we fight.

MEMORIAL

Charldene

"Dee"

Lichtenberger



Mom

My mother Charldene (Dee) Weinman Lichtenberger was born in Grand Island, Ne but spent most of her life in Crete, NE. She was involved in gymnastics, church groups, music, etc. all the normal small-town girl stuff. She graduated from Crete HS then attended and graduated from cosmetology school in Lincoln. Mom spent most of our childhood as a stay at home mom until in the late 80s she and our father started a small business creating laser engraved trophies and awards. She took over the business herself in the early 90s and ran Laser Art Design until she sold it in 2018.

Mom remarried in 2001 to Bill Lichtenberger of Callaway, Ne. She moved the business from Kearney to Callaway and when they were not working her and her love Bill spent time serving others weather that was in the church, providing their talents with the Callaway Thespian Club or traveling the country volunteering with the Shiners and Shiners Hospitals.

Mom discovered she had breast cancer in 2012 and chose to have a lumpectomy verses a mastectomy, she also received chemo. After she was done with her treatment she and Bill went back to their life traveling the country and serving others. In 2016 they discovered Bill had lung cancer he did not fare as well as mom with his cancer and died just a few months after diagnosis. All those treatment, all the travel back and forth to Kearney so that she could get better and they could get back to their adventurous life and this evil disease takes him!! Bill died in December 2016, then just a few months later mom was hospitalized in February with a tumor blocking off part of her colon, her breast cancer had metastasized. She had 18 inches of her colon removed and remained

in the hospital for a couple of weeks before being moved to a swing bed facility in Callaway. She didn't have Bill by her side and my brother and I both lived in Kearney so she had to push through this by herself. We would visit and call every day but it's just not the same as being there to help out every day. What she did have was a community of friends and family in her little town of Callaway and no matter how much we pleaded she refused to leave. She had a great network that would bring her for appointments and treatment and then take her home. She continued treatments and in 2018 was told she had 2 years to live. She tried a few different drugs that they hoped would slow things down but after a year of that she was giving the choice to start treatments again, she just hung her head and said no I don't want any more treatments. We finally convinced her to move to Kearney to be closer to my brother and I and our families. In September of 2019 we got her settled into an assisted living facility where she could have her dog. We did get to take one trip, we went to Colorado and drove around visiting all the places she wanted to go. Then came the unpleasant task of arranging her final wishes, having to ask uncomfortable questions and talk about her final days. That one year date she was given always seemed a long was away, she still talked about wanting to travel and all the stuff she still wanted to do but most of all she wanted to go home to her town of Callaway. In March of 2020 once Covid 19 hit and everything shut down she was isolated in her apartment, we would go see her and talk on the phone at her window but that's all we could do. For nearly 2 ½ months that was the only contact we could have and we watched as she deteriorated. On May 15th we were allowed to enter the facility, she was just coherent enough to recognize and talk to grandkids and family, it was a good day. The next day we watched as her mind and body shutdown. My brother and I are blessed to have been with her as she took her last breath, finally at peace, finally in Bills arms, finally home.

This is the part about cancer that I hate the most, watching people you love live their lives waiting for appointments and treatment, talking about all the things they want to do once they are better and believing that they will live long enough to cross off everything on that bucket list.

Mom was told in May of 2019 that she had a year if she was lucky, she died May 17th 2020.

I miss your hugs and your kisses, I miss your smile, I miss you! Love you always Mom!!

Your son

Kearney Pink Patch Project

August 2019 revealed the Official Kearney Police

Department, Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, and UNK Police Pink Patch Project shoulder patches! Officers wore the patch during the month of October, joining nearly 400 Law Enforcement Agencies across the United States, including 23 in Nebraska. Patches were sold to the public for \$10. All proceeds stayed local, benefiting Forever Pink Foundation. The 2019 Kearney Pink Patch Project raised over \$4,000 for breast cancer patients.



2019 Patches

Nebraska State Patrol will be joining the Project in 2020. Stay tuned for additional details on events and other Pink Patch merchandise.

Upcoming Events

- * 10.03.2020 Get Tee'd Off at Breast Cancer Golf Tournament
- * 10.17.2020 S.O.S. Steps Of Support Walk for Breast Cancer
- * 04.01.2021 Breast Cancer Ain't No Joke Happy Hour
- * 06.03.2021 Cards for a Cure Poker Night



The mission of Forever Pink Foundation is to positively impact
Kearney and the surrounding communities by providing focus,
support and resources to financially and emotionally assist those
battling breast cancer.

Register by calling 308.293.6025 or
Online at www.nebraskaforeverpinkfoundation.org





ACL Regional - Concrete Cares of Nebraska

CORNHOLE FUNDRAISER

16 at 5 PM - Oct 17 at 8 PM

- DivotsConferenceCenter
- https://concretecaresne.com/events

Mission

Our mission is to positively impact Kearney and the surrounding communities by providing focus, support and resources to financially and emotionally assist those battling breast cancer.



In the Fight, Forever Pink Foundation Board

Megan Colling, Shelley Dennis, Jason Fritzen, Loralea Frank, Shane Killion, Bill Maendele, Jayne Meyer, Carol Pelster, Kyle Poff, Elizabeth Roetman, Brandon Ross, Jon Ruyle, Tanya Wegner



Thank you to the many sponsors and volunteers for your continued support. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of breast cancer patients each day.

www.nebraskaforeverpinkfoundation.org









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