I am a three time Cancer Survivor Research/Patient Advocate and Navy Military Veteran. Being a Lynch Syndrome patient, I advocate for genetic testing and clinical trial awareness. I serve on various panels and review boards to provide extensive feedback on my role as a patient and advocate researcher.
Influence

While no one wants to get cancer, I must say that cancer has influenced my life by making me appreciate every moment I have and that my spirit is stronger than I think!

The Human Spirit is stronger than anything that can happen to it...........c.c. scott
Facing it Head On

When someone has cancer, the whole family and everyone who loves them do to!

Anonymous

Learning I Had Lynch Syndrome Helped Save My Life
June 2020 Vol 6 No 3

Lynch syndrome is a hereditary genetic abnormality that can cause several types of cancer. Wenora Johnson discovered that it ran in her family after she had treatment for colon cancer. Knowing that she was at a high risk for certain cancers, and having 2 children already, she had her ovaries and uterus removed, as prevention.

https://conquer-magazine.com/

My Biomarker Story, and Why I Advocate for Genetic Testing
March 2019 Volume 5 – Patient Stories

Wenora Y. Johnson, 3-time survivor, shares her cancer story and encourages patients to ask their care team about biomarker testing.
Cancer

We have two options, medically and emotionally: Give up or Fight like Hell!

'I woke up with an 8-inch scar'

By DENISE M. BARAN-UNLAND  📧 Email  🏷 Follow
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Joliet woman's routine physical changed her life

When Wenora Johnson of Joliet went to her yearly physical in 2011, she never dreamed she'd become an advocate for people with cancer and rare genetic diseases.

This past summer, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) added Johnson as a member of its advisory panel on clinical trials.

Johnson, as well as other members of the panel will use their experiences to help PCORI "refine and prioritize the research it funds," so that the outcomes matter not only to those who make decisions about health care but to the patients themselves, according to a news release. However, Johnson has put to work her passion for advocacy since 2014, when she became a research advocate trainee with Fight Colorectal Cancer (FightCRC) in as a research advocate trainee.

In addition, Johnson has participated in genetic studies and has provided experience-based feedback to such organizations as the College of American Pathologists, Department of Defense, the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship the American Association for Cancer Research's ScientistSurvivor Program, the news release also said.

And it's all because Johnson's doctor, in 2011, suggested she take a fecal occult blood test, one of several screening tests for colon cancer.
Mountains

You have been assigned this mountain, to show others that it can be moved!

Patient Perspective: The Forgotten and the Pandemic of 2020

Wenora Y. Johnson is a three-time cancer survivor, volunteer research and patient advocate with Fight Colorectal Cancer, caregiver/provider, and US Navy veteran.

As the COVID-19 pandemic races around the globe, it is upending life and disrupting routines for all of us. For more than a few, it has taken away loved ones and livelihoods, presenting those of us who thought we were “normal” with a new normal.

But what about those who suffer from mental illness? For them, the new normal is magnified and much more frightening. Even during the best of times, individuals with mental illness are either forgotten or, perhaps worse, suffer the indignity of being thrown in jail, or placed into nursing homes or mental facilities because of their inability to cope with life as well as the rest of us do.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,
Chapter

Cancer is only going to be a chapter in your life, not the whole story!

Joe Wasser

When FORCE volunteer, Wenora Johnson, a colorectal cancer survivor, learned that her brother and grandfather had previously been diagnosed with colorectal cancer, she underwent genetic testing and learned that she had a mutation in a Lynch syndrome gene. Wenora’s blog “Learning I Had Lynch Syndrome Helped Save My Life” shares her story of how this information led to changes in her approach to other cancer risks and to an early diagnosis of endometrial cancer and melanoma before symptoms occurred.

“In the African American community, you don’t talk about it. We are very secretive and private. Every month when I go to my hairdresser, I talk about being a cancer survivor and try to dispel some of those myths. Color is a barrier, but at the end of the day having knowledge can save your life.”

– Wenora Johnson, three-time cancer survivor
Journey

A strong woman knows she has strength enough for the journey…..But a woman of strength knows that it is on the journey that she will become strong!

Luke Easter
Face

Cancer does not have a face until it’s yours or someone you know.

Anthony Del Monte
Your Story

Your life is your story.
Write well.
Edit often.
Fight

You have to fight through some bad days to earn the best days of your life!
Research

Translating research more quickly into interventions can make a big difference in all our lives!
Courage

Courage doesn’t always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says “I’ll try again tomorrow”!

Mary Anne Radmacher

I’m ready for the fight .......... are you?
Wenora