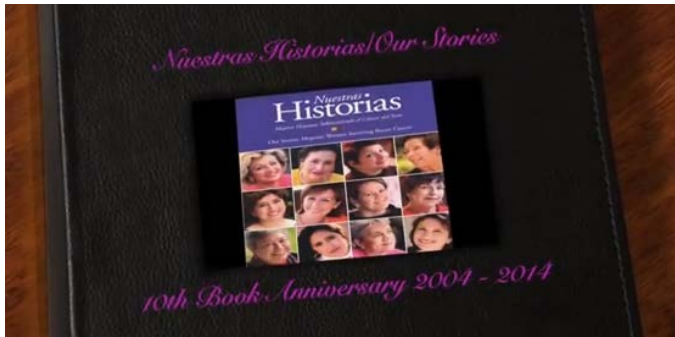


Nuestras Historias: 10 Years Later!



Here is what some Latina cancer survivors have been up to in the last 10 years since sharing their stories in Nuestras Historias: Mujeres Hispanas Sobreviviendo el Cáncer del Seno (Our Stories: Hispanic Women Surviving Breast Cancer)!

Julie La Fuente Louviere

1. How would you describe your current breast health?

Back in the winter of 2009, my tumor markers indicated that the cancer had returned. I immediately started treatment, which consisted of several attempts to find the right match. As of today, I continue to take treatment three times a month to stabilize my tumor markers.

2. How did the experience of being featured in the book impact your life and your family's life?

The experience of being featured in the book granted me the opportunity to meet other survivors and document my experience for others.

3. Is there anything that you know now that you wish you had known when you were diagnosed with cancer? Why?

Yes, I wish that I was advised to continue treatment through a maintenance plan so the cancer wouldn't come back.

4. What advice do you have for other women recently diagnosed with breast cancer?

Maintain good communication with your doctor, always remember there is life after breast cancer and, when life gives you lemons, make lemonade!

5. What accomplishments/milestones have you experienced in the past 10 years that you're proud/grateful for?

- Ran in a beach-to-bay relay with my nieces.
- Ran a half-marathon.
- Reached 25 years of marriage to my husband.
- Turned 50 and feel fabulous.
- Have witnessed my youngest daughter, Alis, grow into a beautiful young lady and dancer.
- Seen my oldest daughter, Ava, graduate from high school, college and recently law school.
- Became a Glam'ma.

6. What does survivorship mean to you?

Survivorship means I am able to wake up every morning and be a wife to my husband, a mom to my girls, now a Glam'ma to my grandson and loving aunt and sister. It means I can be an active part of the present and never take life's moments for granted.

7. What challenges, if any, do you still face as a survivor?

As a three-time survivor, it is difficult to know that it can still return.

8. What are your hopes for the near future?

I hope to see my youngest daughter, Alis, graduate from high school and be a witness to a cure!