

survivor

Lindsey McCallister Strickland



From top: Lindsey with her dad, Scott (left), and her husband, Seth (right)

Lindsey and her best friend, Leah, ran the first Famously Hot Pink Half Marathon in 2016.

By the time Lindsey Strickland was 32, she had faced breast cancer three times.

When Lindsey was 21, her mother, Beth, was diagnosed with breast cancer and beat it. Eight years later, it came back with a vengeance. Beth was 59 when breast cancer took her life. When her mother's breast cancer reoccurred, Lindsey became keenly aware of the importance of her own breast health and was prompted to explore genetic testing. Because Lindsey had no other family history, genetic testing was not recommended. For her own peace of mind, Lindsey began to perform regular breast self exams and quickly noticed lumps in her breasts. Her OBGYN recommended she have a mammogram and ultrasound at Prisma Health Breast Center. The results showed benign, fibrous lumps.

In early 2016, Lindsey noticed a lump and changes in her skin. When the lump began to be painful, Lindsey called her OBGYN who recommended another visit to Prisma Health Breast Center, where she had a mammogram and an ultrasound. The next day, she had a biopsy. The results showed she had breast cancer.

Lindsey sprang into action to determine the next best steps for treatment. She had a lumpectomy, followed by four rounds of chemotherapy and 30 radiation sessions. She also did genetic counseling, and the results were negative. Lindsey's nurse navigator, Sue Whitlock, and Dr. Douglas Bull at the Breast Center, as well as Dr. Mary Audrey Ackerman, helped her understand each step of her journey.

"The team at Prisma Health Breast Center was really good to me during an incredibly scary time. I just wanted the cancer gone, so they moved quickly through the process with me and explained everything along the way," said Lindsey.

The anxiety Lindsey experienced during her breast cancer journey was eased by her father, Scott, her husband, Seth, whom she was dating when she was diagnosed, and her best friend, Leah.

"My dad, Seth and Leah were with me through everything, and I'm incredibly grateful," said Lindsey, who is now feeling great again. She is planning to run with during this year's race on Saturday, Oct. 12 at Segra Park.

Lindsey Strickland is an Assistant Attorney General, specializing in post-conviction relief. She also is an active runner.

29th Walk for Life and Famously Hot Pink Half Marathon, 5K + 10K
a Prisma Health Midlands Foundation signature fundraising event benefiting Prisma Health Breast Center

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019 | Segra Park, 1640 Freed Street, Columbia

WalkForLifeColumbia.org

Proceeds will fund a 9th 3D mammography unit for Prisma Health Breast Center at Northeast Diagnostics in Columbia. Proceeds also will continue to fund educational materials, breast bears and post-mastectomy camisoles for Breast Center patients.

