



# 2018 Annual Report

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ALICE AND CARL  
**KIRKLAND**  
CANCER CENTER

a service of Jackson-Madison County General Hospital



## A message from the Medical Director

On behalf of the dedicated team of physicians, nurses, support staff and volunteers at the Alice and Carl Kirkland Cancer Center, we are proud to share our 2017 milestones and accomplishments with you.

2017 has been another exceptional year with tremendous growth. The synergy of our multidisciplinary team infrastructure, supported by a patient-focused and high quality cancer care, contributed to the outstanding continual growth and achievements this past year.

A major highlight was the certification by the Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI) Certification Program (QCP). This program evaluates individual outpatient oncology practice performance in areas that affect patient care and safety and builds on the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) QOPI by assessing the compliance of a practice with certification standards based on the ASCO/Oncology Nursing Society standards for safe chemotherapy administration. To become certified, a practice must attain a benchmark quality score on certification measures in QOPI and attest that it complies with 17 QCP standards.

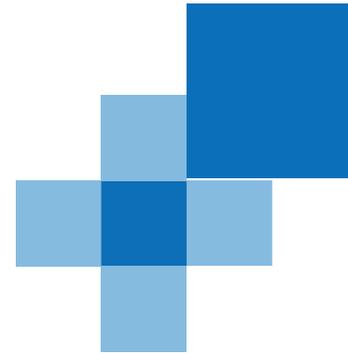
The American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer accreditation represents only 30 percent of all healthcare institutions but more than 70 percent of all new cancer patients. For patients and their families, accreditation is an important measure of quality care and a commitment by the Alice and Carl Kirkland Cancer Center.

In addition, you will read in this report about the philanthropy of one of our retired oncologists, Dr. Eugene Reese. With his generous donation, the Kirkland Cancer Center will work toward the installation of robotic technology to assist in the continued improvement of safety and quality for infusions administered at the center.

Our oncology staff continues to grow as we welcome Dr. Gregory Franz to the cancer center staff as our sixth board-certified hematologist/oncologist.

Together, we will continue to ensure that the patients and families we serve receive the highest level of care from diagnosis through treatment and survivorship.

Dr. Archie Wright  
Cancer Committee Chair

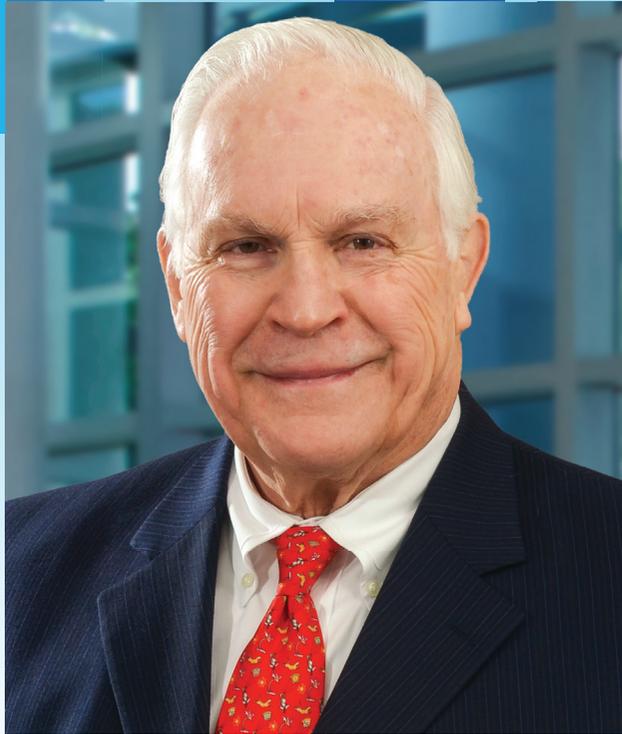


## Cancer Physical Therapy



After reviewing the research, a gap in oncology care was identified. Some recent studies have shown that only 5-22% of adults with cancer impairments receive rehabilitation intervention to improve their quality of life during and after cancer treatment. The evidence-based need for rehabilitation services has been found to actually be 65-90%. Typically, rehabilitation referrals are made only to address one symptom – usually lymphedema. And even then, the referral often only happens once the condition has fully developed. Kirkland Cancer Center teamed up with Sports Plus Rehab Center to address this issue and provide oncology-based therapy designed specifically for patients with all types of cancer diagnoses throughout all phases of treatment (prevention, restoration, adaptation, or palliation).

Felicia Ingram, PT, DPT, CLT-LANA, CLWT, began providing onsite therapy services in June 2017 at Kirkland Cancer Center. Since that time, we have been able to obtain early referrals based upon the patient's need whether it is for physical therapy, occupational therapy, or speech therapy. We have successfully been able to address the complete rehabilitation needs of more patients with the addition of our onsite clinic which makes us readily available to screen for and treat multiple symptoms and create a plan of care that can mitigate the development of long term issues (ie restricted range of motion, lymphedema, cancer-related fatigue (CRF), osteoporosis, chemo-induced neuropathy (CIPN), vestibular/balance issues, and deconditioning).



## Robotic Pharmacy to Open at Kirkland Cancer Center

The Kirkland Cancer Center will have a new robotic pharmacy, one of the only of its kind in the Southeast, named after a former Jackson doctor.

The West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation named the new robotic pharmacy after Dr. Eugene Reese and his wife Eliane. The robotic pharmacy will allow medications for patients to be mixed more accurately in a liquid form and decrease the amount of waste from other forms of medication.

"I think that's a very nice honor. That's not part of what I was hoping for, necessarily. I was hoping to get the pharmacy beefed up even more than it is to be able to do some interesting things, and keep current and be efficient," Dr. Reese said.

Foundation President Frank McMeen said the pharmacy is being named after the Reeses because of a "sizable" donation made to fund the advancement. "This is what he wanted to see us move to. It allows us to provide better treatment for the patients and to lead in the state of Tennessee," McMeen said.

The ribbon-cutting officially opened the new facility, making West Tennessee Healthcare the only system in the state with similar technology, McMeen said. The new pharmacy will allow more patients to turn to Jackson and the Kirkland Cancer Center, rather than having to go out of state for treatments.

"You don't have to go somewhere else. You may choose to, but there are many things that you can do right here at home, and this is one of the latest advances," he said. "You don't have to go to Houston, or Wisconsin or Ohio. It puts us in a whole other league of cancer facilities."

Reese said the technology was something he had hoped to see the hospital gain to better serve patients.

## Lisa Roberts—Inflammatory Breast Cancer Survivor

Lisa Roberts was only 48 years old when she received a diagnosis of Inflammatory Breast Cancer, Stage 3b, after noticing a sore, inflamed area on the outside of one of her breasts. A biopsy of the area confirmed her diagnosis. Her cancer had not yet spread, but she still had a major fight ahead.

Inflammatory Breast Cancer (IBC) is a rare and very aggressive form of breast cancer that progresses rapidly, usually in a matter of months or even weeks. IBC accounts for only about 2% of all breast cancers diagnosed in the U.S. Women diagnosed with this disease, in general, do not survive as long as women diagnosed with other types of breast cancer.

Lisa completed five months of chemotherapy in November 2016 at Kirkland Cancer Center, then underwent a total mastectomy at the end of November. She then underwent six weeks of radiation then another 5 months of chemotherapy, which she finished in July 2017. Lisa's life as a wife, mother and caretaker of others was altered dramatically as she allowed others to care for her.

"Without the overwhelming love, support and care of the dedicated staff at Kirkland Cancer Center (oncologists, nurses, receptionists, appointment desk representatives, phlebotomists, volunteers, and more), I could not have made it through this."

She also credits her family for their role in helping her along her journey to recovery. Her husband, son, and siblings have remained by her side. She also acknowledges the major role of her faith, knowing that "if I could have faith as strong as a mustard seed, God would move this cancerous mountain."

"My husband is a physician, and when he said himself that he recommended Kirkland Cancer Center for my treatment, I listened," says Lisa. "The research trials and care available here are just as great as the work being done at Vanderbilt or M.D. Anderson, so why would I go anywhere else with Kirkland Cancer Center in my backyard?"



**"Without the overwhelming love, support and care of the dedicated staff at Kirkland Cancer Center, I could not have made it through this."**

– Lisa Roberts



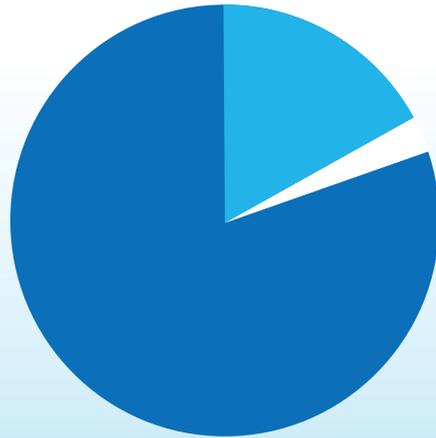


# 2017 Kirkland: 1727 total number of cancer diagnoses.

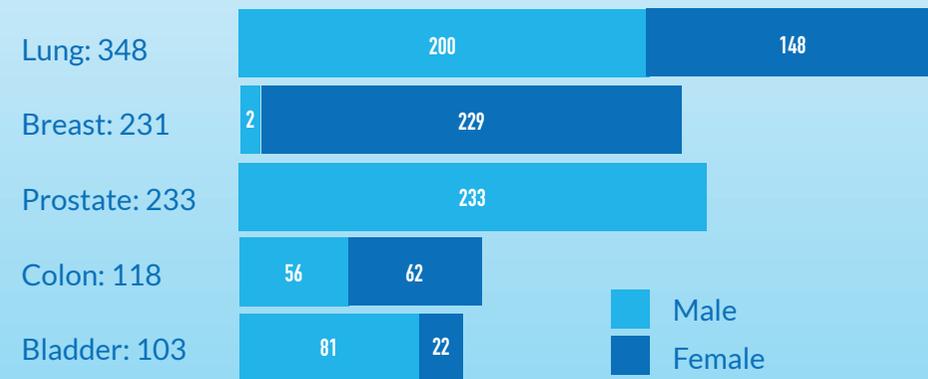
by the numbers

## By Race

- White: 1399
- Black: 318
- Other: 10

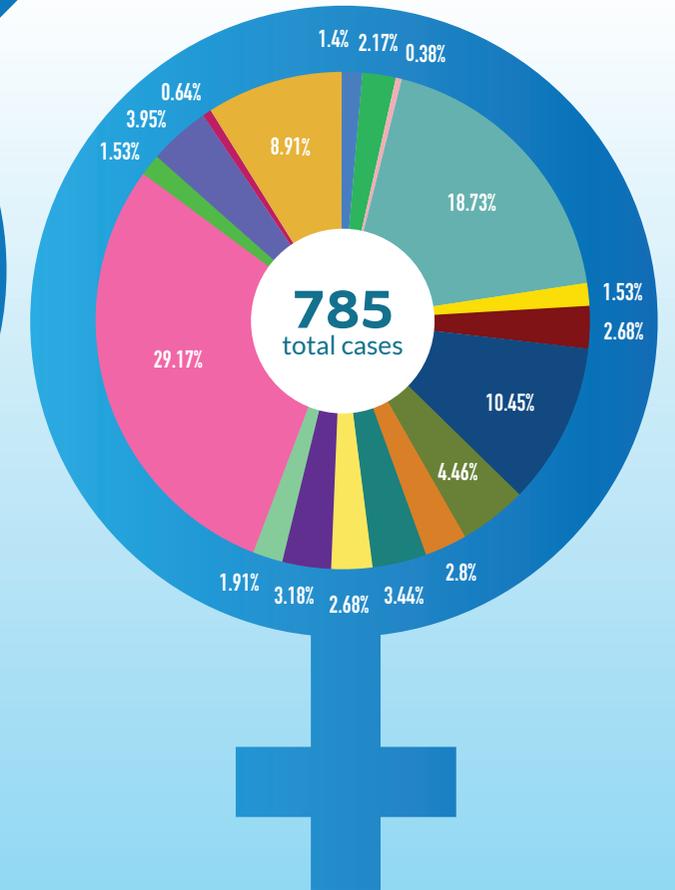
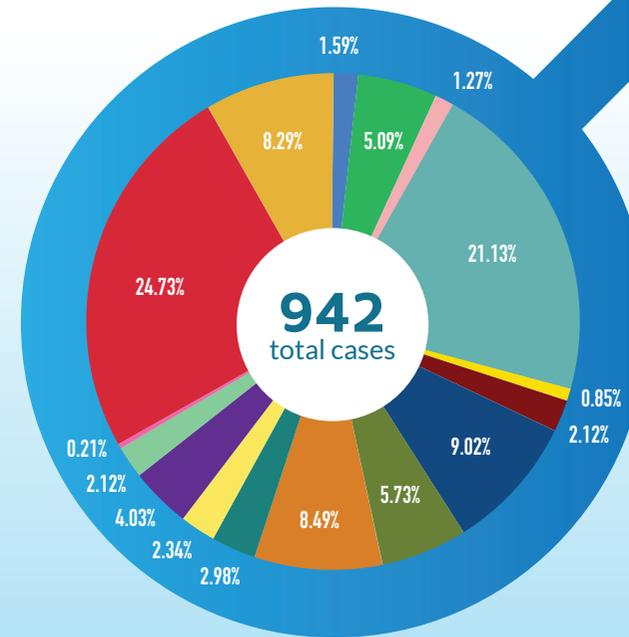


## Top 5 occurrences = 1033



## By Sex

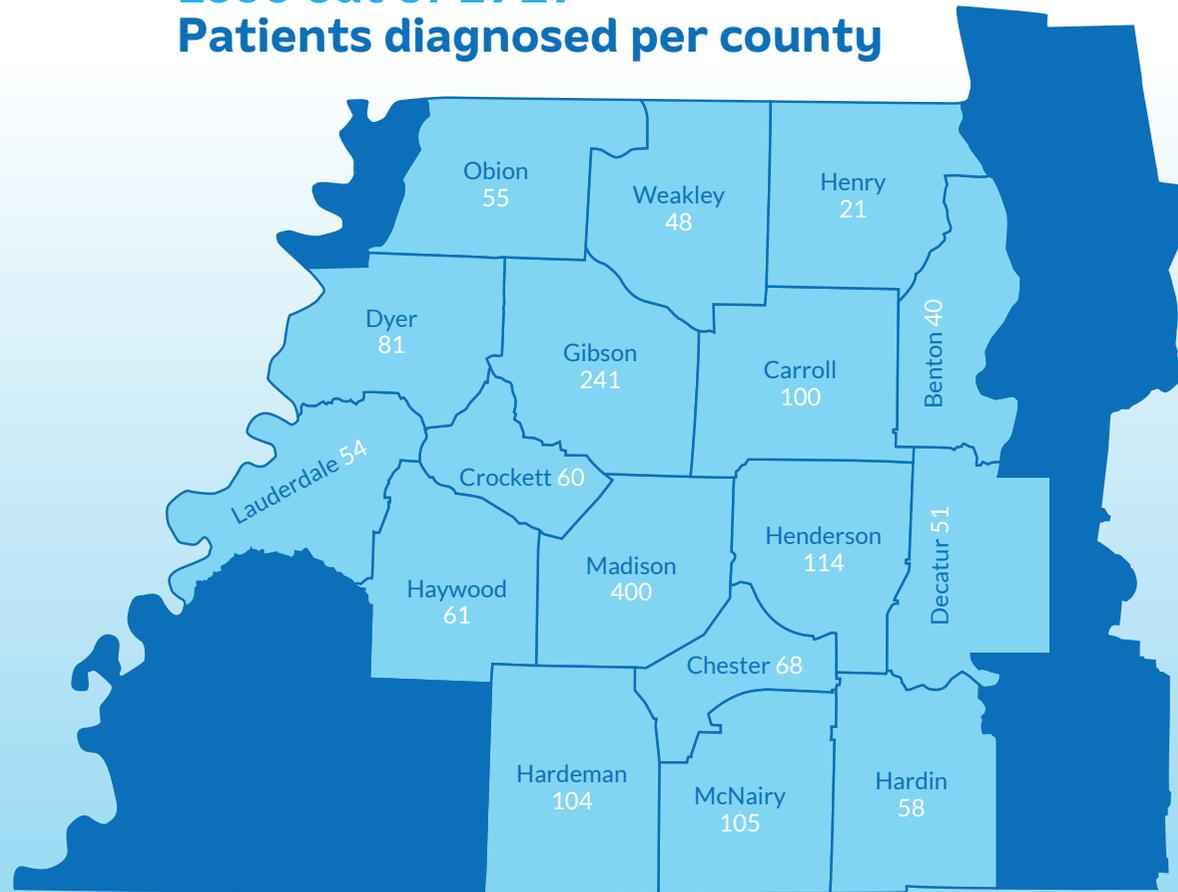
- Lung
- Breast
- Prostate
- Stomach
- Cervix
- Ovary
- Pancreas
- Esophagus
- Kidney
- Leukemia
- Corpus Uteri
- Colon/Rectum
- Urinary/Bladder
- Melanoma Skin
- Lip, Oral Cavity, Pharynx, Larynx
- Brain and Nervous System
- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
- Other Digestive Organs
- All Other Sites



# 2017 Kirkland

by the numbers

**1600 out of 1727**  
**Patients diagnosed per county**



These numbers only reflect patients at the Kirkland Cancer Center

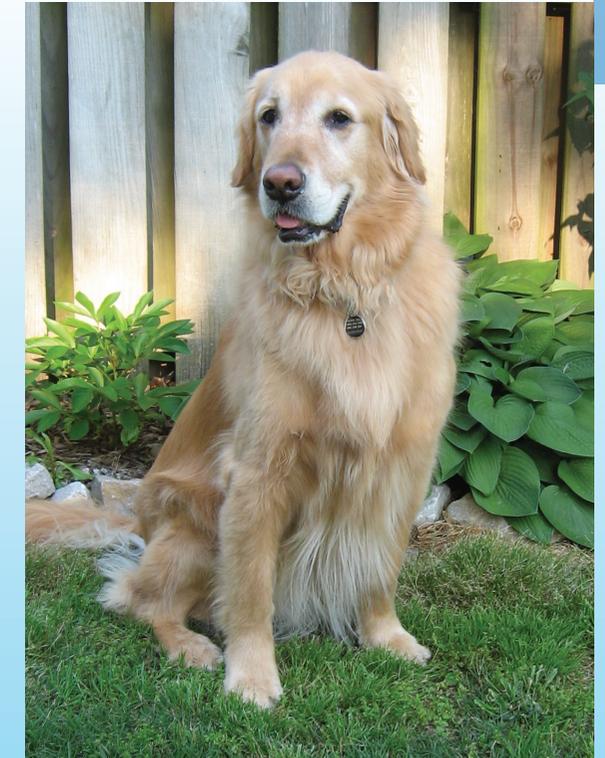
Fresh ideas and stress-relieving services nicely compliment the leading-edge, comprehensive care and on-site conveniences already offered at The Kirkland Cancer Center.

## Symphony Partnership

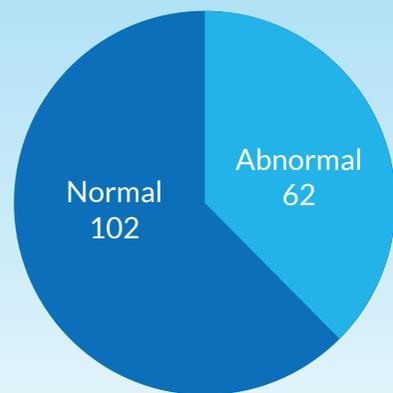
Live music with the Jackson Symphony continues to be a refreshing service for patients and visitors in the center. Musicians rotate through the lobby and patient care areas performing musical selections and requests. Patients are in awe of the lovely music played weekly by select musicians with The Jackson Symphony. It enhances the beautiful spa-like environment and affords patients and visitors an opportunity to enjoy something they might not have otherwise experienced.

## Pet Therapy Program

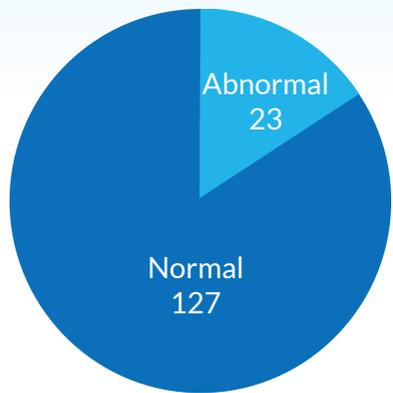
It's been a doggone good day around the Kirkland Cancer Center lately, thanks to Majik and the other cutest canines you'll ever meet. Kirkland Cancer Center began Pet Therapy, a new complimentary service in 2017, to join the other services already offered at the center.



# 2017 Community Prevention, Early Detection Screenings and Education.



**Free Breast Cancer Screening for Uninsured Women**  
TOTAL Screening = 164



**Free Skin Cancer Screening**  
TOTAL Screening = 150



## ASCO QOPI<sup>®</sup> Certification Program

### Kirkland Cancer Center Receives Recognition for High-Quality Cancer Care

Kirkland Cancer Center has been recognized by the QOPI<sup>®</sup> Certification Program (QCP<sup>™</sup>), an affiliate of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO<sup>®</sup>), as successfully completing a three-year certification program for outpatient hematology-oncology practices that meet nationally recognized standards for quality cancer care. QCP<sup>™</sup> builds on ASCO's Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI<sup>®</sup>).

"We are thrilled to receive this certification from the QOPI<sup>®</sup> Certification Program, which reinforces our commitment to excellence for our patients at the Kirkland Cancer Center," said Gina S. Myracle, Executive Director of the Alice and Carl Kirkland Cancer Center.

"ASCO's QOPI Certification demonstrates an oncology practice's dedication to providing high-quality care to patients with cancer," said ASCO President Bruce E. Johnson, MD, FASCO. "The certification process is rigorous and by successfully completing it, providers put into practice their commitment to QOPI<sup>®</sup> analyzes individual practice data and compares these to more than 160 evidence-based and consensus quality measures. The information is then provided in reports to participating practices. Individual practices also are able to compare their performance to data from other practices across the country. Based on this feedback, doctors and practices can identify areas for improvement.

# Meet Our Kirkland Cancer Center Providers

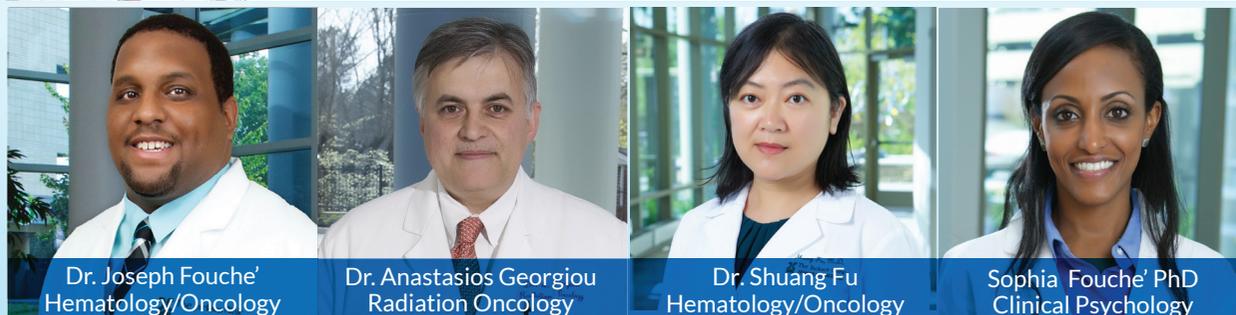


Dr. Archie Wright  
Hematology/Oncology

Dr. Jeffery Kovalic  
Radiation Oncology

Dr. Dwight Kaufman  
Hematology/Oncology

Dr. Brian Walker  
Hematology/Oncology



Dr. Joseph Fouche  
Hematology/Oncology

Dr. Anastasios Georgiou  
Radiation Oncology

Dr. Shuang Fu  
Hematology/Oncology

Sophia Fouche PhD  
Clinical Psychology



Worthy Walker  
Nurse Practitioner

Mary McMillin  
Nurse Practitioner

Nekayeh Carothers  
Nurse Practitioner

Nicole Deline  
Nurse Practitioner

## Newest Addition to Our Team

### Dr. Gregory Franz Hematology/Oncology

Dr. Franz is exceptionally prepared to join Kirkland Cancer Center. He is a multi-board-certified oncologist and hematologist. He is a Summa Cum Laude/Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Cincinnati who went on to train at the University of Rochester, Cornell University and Wright State University before completing a fellowship at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Along the way he also earned a Masters in Public Health at the University of California Berkeley.

Dr. Franz is a highly experienced physician who has directed regional cancer programs and conducted clinical research, particularly in the area of breast cancer.



## Hospice Honors Recipient

Hospice of West Tennessee is the recipient of Hospice Honors again for the 3rd time in 4 years. Hospice Honors was bestowed by Deyta Analytics, a division of HEALTHCAREfirst, the leading provider of Web-based home health and hospice software, outsourced billing and coding services, and advanced analytics. Hospice Honors is a prestigious program that recognizes hospices providing the highest level of quality as measured from the caregiver's point of view. The experiences of our patients and their families we care for are the only real proof of our effectiveness.

"It is rewarding and fulfilling to know that our commitment and dedication to the comfort of our patients and caregivers have not gone unnoticed"

Lisa Phillips, RN  
Hospice Case Manager

"It is very humbling for our hospice to receive this honor. We strive to support our patients and families"

Carol Cook, RN  
Hospice Case Manager



## Craig Whitney Tonsil Cancer Survivor

When Craig Whitney was diagnosed with tonsil cancer, he knew he had a battle ahead. The two-time survivor of bladder cancer was already acquainted with treatments for the disease. This time, he chose the Kirkland Cancer Center as the place to seek treatment.

"I had a sore throat and went to the doctor," says Craig. "He gave me antibiotics, but they didn't help. They biopsied the lump I found, and I learned I had cancer on Halloween."

Craig had his tonsils removed in November and went to the Kirkland Cancer Center for his first visit on December 1. He was nervous, but the staff put him at ease with their attentive, caring manner as soon as they called his name in the waiting room. Craig received three chemotherapy treatments over three months, as well as 35 radiation treatments. When his treatments caused problems with opening his jaw, his doctors tried something new by treating him with medicine that they traditionally give to breast cancer patients as well as Vitamin E. He had to have a feeding tube, but the medicine gradually corrected the problems with his jaw.

"Dr. Georgiou, my radiation oncologist, and Dr. Fouche, my oncologist, explained all of the details clearly throughout the whole process," Craig says. "Not everything they had to say was good, but they were honest with me, and I appreciated that. I also valued the positive environment the staff at the Kirkland Cancer Center created for their patients. From therapy dogs to the Jackson Symphony to churches visiting and delivering gifts, something was always going on to put smiles on patients' faces."

Craig, who is married with four children and seven grandchildren, is hoping to soon return to work at the plant where he has been employed for 23 years. He is gaining weight and will soon have his feeding tube removed. While he still visits the Kirkland Cancer Center for check-ups, he is not there as often as he was for treatments. He has no doubt that everyone will remember him when he goes back for his check-ups.

"From my first visit, I felt like the staff at the Kirkland Cancer Center understood exactly what I was going through in ways no one else could," says Craig. "Someone is on call 24 hours a day, and a staff member was always calling and checking on me. It's more than medical treatment there; it's caring."



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