

**“My name is Jenny Maynard.** I am 41 years old, a mother of two beautiful children, and a wife of over twenty-one years to an amazing husband. I have spent almost half of my life as an educator, wife, and student. My life was just chugging right along and then...

In November 2014, everything came to a screeching halt. I have always tried to perform a self-check on my breasts every month or so, but I had forgotten about it for a few months. I decided, one night before bedtime, to go ahead and do a check and came across what felt like a small, pea-sized lump in my left breast. Because I am Fibrocystic and have dense breast tissue, I kind of passed it off as just general lumpiness, but by the end of December it had grown in size and I knew I needed to have it checked out.

I began researching the different types of breast cancer and was praying that I didn't hear the words Triple Negative, as it is a fast growing and more aggressive form of breast cancer. On February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 I was given the news that completely rocked our world. I had breast cancer, Stage II Triple Negative, Invasive Ductal Carcinoma. Would I be a survivor? What would all of these treatments do to my body? Would they kill the cancer?

One month later, on my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, I began the long journey to battle my breast cancer. I fought through three surgeries, the exhaustion, the sickness and torrent of sixteen chemotherapy treatment, the emotional stress, itching and pain of thirty-three radiation treatments.

Throughout this journey, I asked myself many times, "What am I scared of?" There was a long list of answers. Death...

Leaving my daughter way too early...

Missing out on my son's life...

Leaving my husband a widow...

The side effects of treatment...

Leaving my parents here without me...

And most of all...I was scared to death of the UNKNOWN. I had no idea what was going to happen and I had no control over it. That is absolutely the worst feeling ever...

Now, as I look back, I see the entire picture. I made it. I did it. I am now on the other side of the mountain. I am not completely off of the mountain. I won't ever be, but I am proud of myself for pushing on, pushing through, and just simply making it. I still battle a LOT of anguish and worry, but I AM a survivor!

I want to share my story...to help others who have fallen victim to this dreadful disease. I want them to look at me and see a story of hope and a future."

You can read more of Jenny's breast cancer journey by visiting her blog, <http://jennysstory.weebly.com/>



**KOMEN COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR**

**Jenny Maynard**

Dalton, GA

2 Year Breast Cancer Survivor