


A 3-D View of Cancer: Observations by a Nurse, Caregiver & Survivor



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*Life is what happens to us while we
are making other plans.
—Allen Saunders, Publishers
Syndicate*

Objective

- Following this discussion, participants will be able to identify variations in perception of the cancer experience by caregivers or patients.



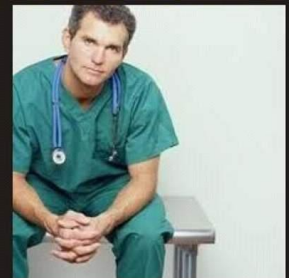
“Never dreamed I’d be an oncology nurse.....”



Caregiver: Honor and a curse?

- Are you the family expert for healthcare questions?
 - Got an earache? Call the family nurse.
 - Need surgery? Call the family nurse.
 - What do these results mean? Call the family nurse.

NURSE SITTING DOWN







Clearly photoshopped.

Stage IV Prostate Cancer









The Curse?: When you know stuff.....



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Where Are the Men? The Impact of BRCA in Prostate Cancer

LINDA PENWARDEN, MN, RN, AOCN | June 09, 2015

Discussions >>

Talk about this article with nurses and others in the oncology community in the **General Discussions** Oncology Nursing News discussion group.



Linda Penwarden, MN, RN, AOCN

“Linda, I’m going to die!” The strained voice was that of my former husband Michael in a message left on my work phone. I had not expected to hear from him during the day since he was undergoing a prostatectomy; my son and I planned to visit him in the hospital after work. I certainly didn’t expect to hear those words.

It was 2008, and weeks earlier Michael’s prostate biopsy *finally* showed cancer. I say finally, as it was one of many biopsies performed in the face of a rising PSA. The surgery was to be “routine,” and a good surgical outcome was anticipated. He was likely to be one of those men that did well following surgery and perhaps radiation. Unfortunately, the prostatectomy was never completed.

At the hospital that evening, Michael relayed the surgeon’s message: extensive cancer, stage IV disease, and a prognosis of 2 years. What? This was shocking news, and a strong sense of failure followed for not having caught this earlier.

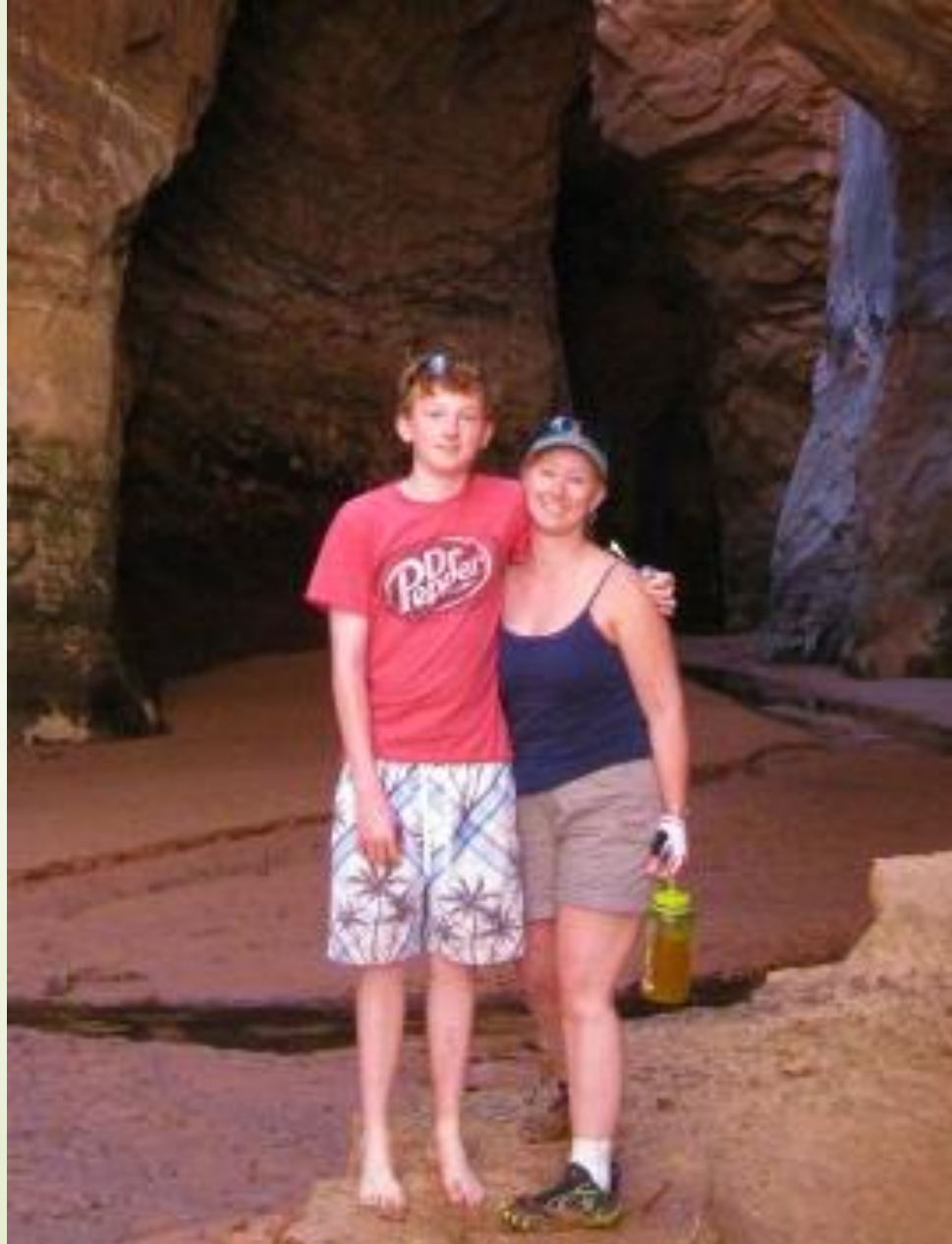
An emerging perspective



Sometimes, the
person who's been
there for everyone
else needs someone
to be there for
them.

-The Imperfect
Caregiver, For
Women and Men
Caring for Loved
Ones at Home

And then there were two...





Emotional/Social Changes

- Show more concern about body image, looks, and clothes.
- Focus on themselves; going back and forth between high expectations and lack of confidence.
- Experience more moodiness.
- Show more interest in and influence by peer group.
- Express less affection toward parents; sometimes might seem rude or short-tempered.
- Feel stress from more challenging school work.
- Develop eating problems.
- Feel a lot of sadness or depression, which can lead to poor grades at school, alcohol or drug use, unsafe sex, and other problems

Parental Death

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FOOD

FITNESS

HEALTH

MYPLATE

Psychological Effects of Parental Death

by **ASHLEY MILLER** | Last Updated: Jun 13, 2017



The death of a parent is one of the most stressful and significant events a child can experience. The psychological effects of a parent's death can affect the child for the rest of her



Cumulative loss & grief

- Sara: March, 2010
- Michael:
September, 2011
- Dad: October 2012





“You can’t give what
you don’t have.”
- Unknown



**CHANGE
AHEAD**

Patient Name: **PENWARDEN, LINDA MAI**

Client: SLRMC

Location: BPER

Collected: 12/12/2014

Received: 12/12/2014

Reported: 12/16/2014

Gender: F

5608

Copy To:

Final Pathologic Diagnosis

- A. SENTINEL LYMPH NODE #1, RIGHT AXILLA, BIOPSY:
METASTATIC CARCINOMA IDENTIFIED IN ONE LYMPH NODE (1/1).
MAXIMAL METASTATIC TUMOR DIAMETER APPROXIMATELY 5 MM.
NO EXTRANODAL EXTENSION IDENTIFIED.
- B. SENTINEL LYMPH NODE #2, RIGHT AXILLA, BIOPSY:
**MICROMETASTATIC CARCINOMA (LESS THAN 1 MM IN AGGREGATE DIAMETER)
IDENTIFIED IN ONE LYMPH NODE (1/1).**
- C. BREAST TISSUE, RIGHT, LUMPECTOMY:
INVASIVE, WELL DIFFERENTIATED DUCTAL CARCINOMA, GRADE 1 OF 3.
MULTIPLE FOCI 2 TO 8 MM IN DIAMETER.
2 MM DIAMETER FOCUS SHOWS FEATURES OF MUCINOUS CARCINOMA, GRADE 1 OF 3.
ANGIOLYMPHATIC INVASION IDENTIFIED.
MULTIPLE FOCI OF **MICROINVASIVE DUCTAL CARCINOMA ARISING FROM DUCTAL
CARCINOMA IN SITU, INTERMEDIATE TO HIGH GRADE WITH COMEDONECROSIS.**
MAXIMAL DIAMETER OF IN SITU CARCINOMA APPROXIMATELY 2.5 CM.

Nurses as patients

Be nice to me... I may be
your nurse someday!!!!
Remember...catheters and
needles come in sizes that
I choose!!!!!!



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Helping Children When a Family Member Has Cancer

This series of guides offers extensive information on helping children understand and deal with cancer in another family member.

Dealing with Diagnosis

Families with young children or teens may be concerned about how children will react to a diagnosis of cancer in a family member. Here we discuss how to help children understand and deal with a parent or close family member's cancer diagnosis.

Dealing with Treatment


Explaining cancer treatment to children can be a tough job, especially when you are already trying to deal with your own feelings and emotions. What you tell your children depends on many things, like their ages, personalities, and what you know about the treatment.

Understanding Psychosocial Support Services

Cancer can affect the entire family -- both adults and children -- in many ways. Psychosocial support includes mental health counseling, education, group support, and many other such services.

Nurse? Patient? On being treated where you work....





New perspectives, more clarity, finding humor (in no particular order)

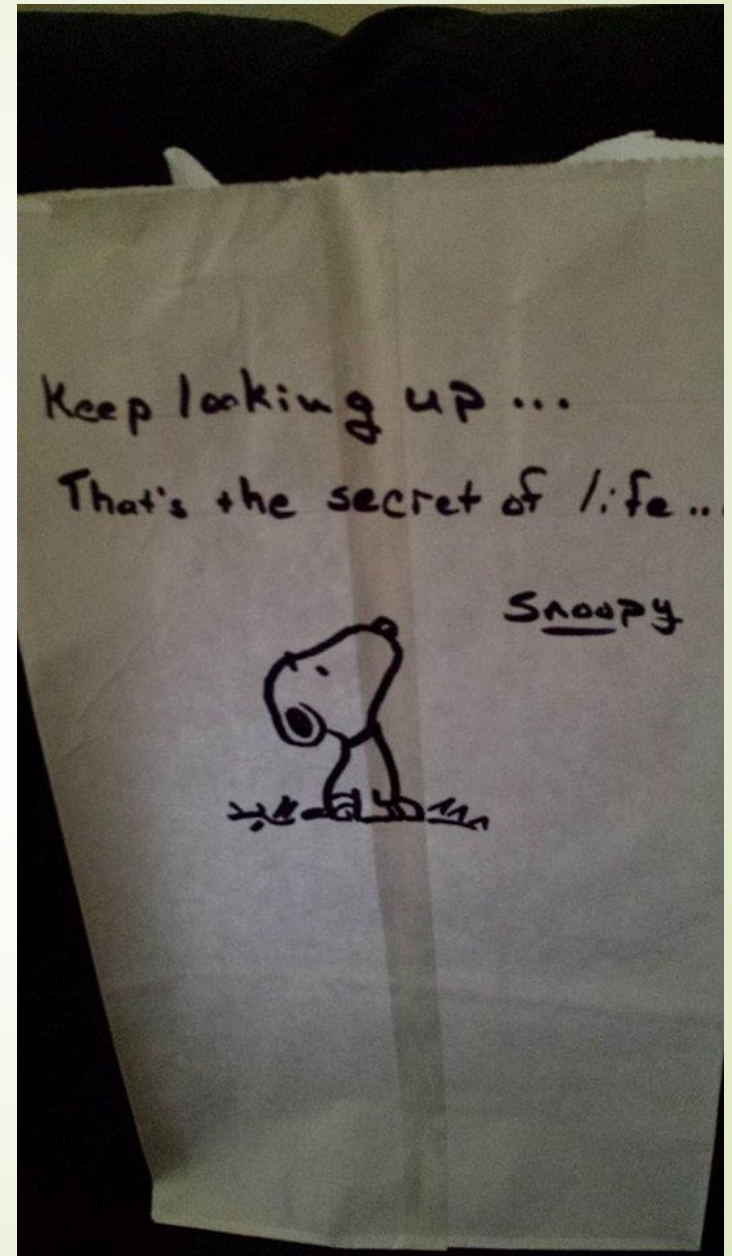
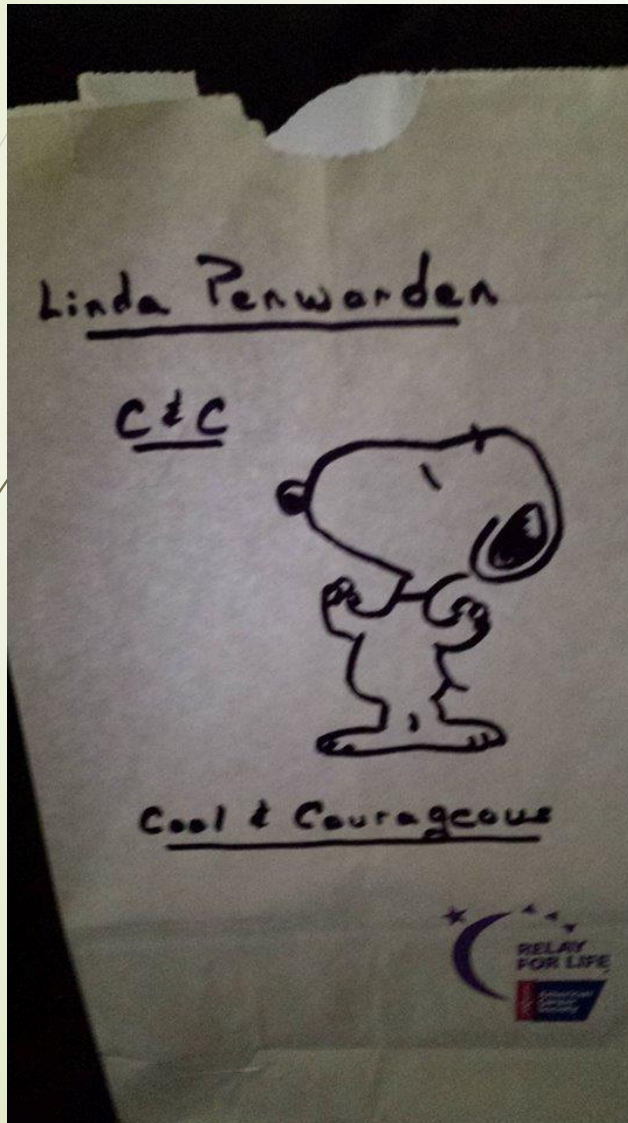
- “You may experience taste changes.”
- “It’s not poison, it’s medicine.”
- “Fatigue is the most common side effect.”
- “Cognitive changes? What?”
- “Well, you look great!”
- “I like your haircut” “Looks like we go to the same barber” “I’m going to get out of your hair now”
- “It was a splitting maul!”

(My awesome oncologist, Dr. Alluri)





Survivorship





Questions?



PLEASE POSE ALL QUESTIONS
In The Form Of A Compliment

Thank you for all that you do!