

NE

Nancy Weaver Emerson

Pushing Back Against Cancer

In 1985, patients with cancer like Nancy Emerson's were given a life expectancy of only two years. But that grim statistic failed to take into account Nancy's indomitable spirit and Duke's state-of-the-art care.

In fact, that year Nancy was just beginning a remarkable and inspiring journey across two decades. As researchers, doctors and caregivers at the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center (DCCC) worked ever harder to stay ahead of her recurring cancer, Nancy became the DCCC's most extraordinary spokesperson and champion, advocating for patient's rights, lobbying to secure more funding for cancer research and treatment, and supporting and encouraging other cancer patients and their families.

Although Nancy Emerson died in 2003, her legacy can be seen everywhere at the DCCC. Nancy showed us that patients can be our most courageous and extraordinary partners in advancing cancer research, treatment, education and policy.



