



Bright Light Foundation

Dwight Jones

2014 BLF Recipient



Dwight Jones of Houston, Texas has been married to Carol Jones for 28 years. They have 4 children and 10 awesome grandchildren. Jeanie, our German shepherd is his best friend and she adores him.

In 2012, Dwight was laid off from Lewis Petroleum where he worked as a Roughneck in Encinal, Texas. During the time he was laid off, he was diagnosed with Ulcerative Colitis. This disease affects the gastrointestinal tract and he experienced the following symptoms: abdominal cramping, pain, fatigue, diarrhea, and weight loss. With multiple flare ups of his illness, it was very hard for him to return to work.

After going back and forth to the doctor for treatment, it started getting worse. His doctor then suggested that he start Remicade IV infusion treatments. This medication goes directly into the bloodstream to slow down the overactive process that causes inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract. After researching the drug Remicade and its cost, there was no way the family could afford the treatments, even with insurance subsidy. Each treatment starts at \$18,000; the treatment plan consisted of an infusion every 3 weeks. We were offered assistance through the Remicade program which allowed Dwight to start his treatments.

By this time, Dwight had lost approximately 60 pounds. His doctor suggested an MRI to see what was actually going on with his body. We scheduled the MRI in April 2014 and the doctor stated that he did not see anything abnormal; therefore he suggested that he continue with his Remicade treatments. Dwight was relieved that there was nothing out of the ordinary going on, so he continued his treatments and still no luck with feeling better. In May 2014, Dwight went to another doctor for a second opinion and that doctor ordered a CT scan. When the results came back, he called Dwight in and advised him to go to MD Anderson for further tests. The doctor stated that he immediately saw some tumors on the scan that might be cancerous. We set up an appointment with the doctor that we were referred to on June 6, 2014, and he immediately ran tests and it was confirmed that he had Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer. The doctor stated that with this type of aggressive cancer, studies have shown a life span of two years. He has currently taken six chemo treatments and after the fifth treatment, they ran another CT scan and the doctor stated that the tumors are shrinking and they strongly feel that the chemo is working. He will receive chemo for five additional months and they will follow up with a restaging scan to determine his future prognosis.

Dwight has given his illness to God and looks at everything in a positive way and he will continue doing the things that God has commanded him to do. Dwight will be ordained as a Deacon on October 12th as he loves helping others and spreading the gospel in hopes that his testimony will help others.