MEG'S STORY

MEG RYNDERMAN

CANCER SURVIVOR

My name is Meg Rynderman. I’m 63 years old. I’m a wife, a mother, a grandmother. I suppose for me the most important thing to recognise in terms of a survivorship experience, is that cancer diagnosis and treatment requires more than just the involvement of the treatment oncologist/the surgeon.

Every patient is different, every patient has different needs. It’s not just about outcomes and the expectations that a doctor or a nurse may have for the patient. It’s about the holistic wellbeing of a patient, and I suppose for me my sense would be that if I felt that the team as a whole were listening to the patient, were taking the patient as a whole- not a cancer patient- a person, an individual, who has come to them with a problem, and looking at them in that light rather than seeing them as another box on a conveyor belt. That would go a long way in improving the experience for a cancer patient. They would retain a level of dignity and involvement in their own treatment and management of their illness and their survivorship.