

I am the youngest of 5, born in a small Indiana town. My family moved around during my younger years before settling in Ohio after the passing of my Grandpa. Growing up, my parents were very religious, strict conservatives. I learned my values from my parents by watching how they treated people through our tough times and financial difficulties.

They worked hard for what we had but regardless of their devotion our situation was less than stable at times. We lived in middle class neighborhood and there would be disputes over the expenses. I always played outside with neighborhood friends but moving around so much during my school years made keeping up with friends and schooling difficult. Then, before graduating high school, I was diagnosed with Ovarian Cancer. My fight with cancer was exhausting and left me with permanent health issues. I am proud to report I am a 24 year survivor and am currently a Advocate Leader for Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance.

After getting married and beating cancer, I continued my education all the way to Owens Community College to become a State Tested Nurse's Aid. Working in nursing homes and home health was a true passion of mine. Taking care of the elderly gave me real purpose and I appreciated the connections I made. Because of ongoing health conditions I was forced into early retirement and have worked as an advocate ever since.

I am a former SEIU1199 Delegate, union member and worked on the board of Awakening Minds

