



Survivor
30 Years — Cervical Cancer
Jean Trammell Wallace

I was diagnosed with cervical cancer in 1977. I had gone to the doctor because I bled almost constantly. I begged him to operate or whatever would cure me. After a core biopsy of the cervix, it was the problem — full of cancer.

I had had yearly Pap tests and asked the doctor why this was not diagnosed sooner. He said "Well, it's due to how good the lab technician is!" I was horrified. I thought of all the men and women who were diagnosed too late!

I spent six weeks at Madigan Hospital in Tacoma, WA. I had radium treatments every five days and was sent home on the weekend. I lived 125 miles from Tacoma and drove myself back and forth. Yes, I had a husband, but that's another long story. I had a room at Madigan's guest house and passed a lot of time reading or going to the local mall. I left there in December of 1977. They said I was cured.

Ten years later I was diagnosed again. I don't think I have ever cried that hard about anything before or since. A radical hysterectomy was performed. The doctor wanted me to take hormones, I was in my early 50s. On the box it said, "This product may cause cancer." I told the doctor I was not going to take anything like that. I've survived!

Then in 2004 I had an annual Pap and they found spots on the lining of the vagina. That was removed surgically. That was in April and in September they found more and they froze those. I have been okay since.

I guess I was meant to survive all that because I had to take care of my mother with terminal stomach cancer, my husband Russ died of lung cancer and my brother Noble with intestinal cancer. Without mother, I cared for my Down Syndrome sister and my 94 year old father who was as bright and healthy as old age should be. He died at 100. That helped make up for all the rest.

At 65 I came back to Montana where I was born and bought what was left of my grandparent's old farm. My son Michael and I restored it back to as near original as possible. I'm very proud to be the first Murray to have it back in the family since 1924.

I have four wonderful children; three sons, Patrick, Dennis and Mike, and daughter Nancy. I've been divorced 25 years. I enjoy good health and energy.

I feel very fortunate at age 80!

-Jean



- Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.
- National Blood Donor Month.

January
2008

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <small>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</small>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the primary cause of cervical cancer and one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases in the US. Almost all cervical cancers are related to HPV. In 2006, the FDA approved an HPV vaccine and recommended that it be routinely given to females aged 11 to 12. Talk to your doctor for further information.	