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Oncology Paper

The story about Victoria Enmon was excruciating. She was very young when she was first diagnosed with her cancer. She went through bone marrow transplants during her time with leukemia. Victoria loved playing video games. This love for games that she had was something that inspired the program called Extra-life. The program was raised money for other children with cancer. This program allowed gamers from all over to be able to play and to raise money at the same time. I think the idea of a fundraising program that can bring people's hobbies and interests is amazing. It is a different approach that took off by Victoria's interest in playing games. Victoria passed away after four years of battling her cancer diagnosis. The fundraiser that was inspired by her love of video games. I think that it is amazing how much money was raised Extra Life. The program has raised millions of dollars to help with other children that have been diagnosed with cancer. I think that Victoria would have loved the idea of what Extra Life is doing.

The video about the five people that were diagnosed with cancer was inspirational. Beverlye was one of the ones that was diagnosed with cancer. She had a lot of family history with cancer. Knowing this, Beverlye made it a point to take extra care of herself. She was surprised when she found out that there were eight tumors that came up on her x-ray. She did not treat her stage four cancer with chemotherapy as suggested by the physician that diagnosed her with cancer. Instead she tried a different treatment that was experimental. Daryl Bristol was diagnosed with his cancer after having a bone break that was not healing. Daryl found strength in his family and in the love for his son. He stated that he was someone that never asked for help in anything until he needed the help after being diagnosed. I think that humbling experience shows tremendous strength from within. He also said that he had a bad attitude about his diagnosis. This is completely understandable. But he said that he was able to change his attitude and that lead to him accepting the help that he needed at the time. I think that having a positive attitude especially in this aspect is a marker of what will come. He could have stayed upset and slipped into a depressed state. Instead he had the strength to overcome and do what he felt he needed to do. Kenon Neal has had cancer four times. She had planned to have a family and children. This was not possible because of her diagnosis. Even through all of this she has such a positive attitude. All of the people in the stage IV video have such positive support systems. I believe that this makes such a big difference in the treatment of cancer.

The story of Brittany Maynard and her right to die was such a beautiful story. I truly believe that it is well within her rights to "death with dignity." I think it takes such a strong person to decide to do this. Brittany seemed to value the quality of her life rather than the quantity of time she had left. She did not want to "be trapped" in her body. This is a fear that makes her choice so understandable. Brittany felt and her family feels that not only was this the right choice, but it should be more accessible. They had to move from California to Oregon to be able to go forward with Brittany's choice. I agree with the family and their thoughts of assisted suicide being more accessible because having to drive so far away just to be able to pass on a patient's terms seems cruel and scary. The way that her family spoke about her passing was so beautiful. They kept mentioning that she went peacefully and on her terms. The fact that she was able to do that is such a graceful way to go.