

Braver
Hopeful
Together
♡

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exceptional when it comes
to listening.”*

— BETSY HANZES

A Second Journey, Supported Every Step of the Way.

When Betsy Hanzes discovered a small lump during a routine examination with her primary care provider, she knew something didn’t seem right. After an initial course of antibiotics provided only temporary improvement, she was referred to breast surgeon Dr. Rittenhouse for further evaluation. A biopsy confirmed what Betsy had quietly feared — breast cancer.

This was not Betsy’s first experience with the disease. She was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1994, making this diagnosis more than three decades later especially emotional.

“I sort of suspected,” Betsy said. “It was scary and disappointing, but not surprising.”

Dr. Rittenhouse performed Betsy’s mastectomy, and despite concerns that recovery would be more difficult this time, Betsy was pleasantly surprised by how well she healed.

“It wasn’t nearly as traumatic as I expected,” she said. “I thought my age would definitely play a role in the recovery process, but I rebounded pretty quickly.”

Following surgery, Betsy chose not to pursue additional treatment and says she is doing well.

While she is grateful for the successful outcome of her surgery, Betsy says what stood out most was the exceptional care she received throughout her journey.

“They’re fabulous,” she said. “I have not met a single person on the care team that I don’t feel is giving 100%. They’re genuine, down to earth, and they listen to you. Everyone that I’ve met with on this team is exceptional when it comes to listening.”

Although asked if there was one caregiver who made the biggest impact, Betsy found it impossible to single out just one person.

“They are such a team,” she said. “It’s very difficult to pick one individual because they work beautifully together.”

Dr. Rittenhouse said, “Every patient’s journey is unique, but one thing remains the same — our commitment to providing compassionate, personalized care from diagnosis through recovery. Early detection and open communication are incredibly important, and we’re honored to be part of each patient’s support system.”

Betsy’s story is a reminder of the importance of paying attention to changes in your body, seeking medical evaluation when something doesn’t feel right, and the difference compassionate, collaborative care can make throughout a patient’s cancer journey.