

Kristin's Story:



Kristin Rocha Pires passed away due to Synovial Sarcoma in September 2023, at the age of 37.

Kristin's cancer journey started with severe abdominal pain as a teen that went mis/undiagnosed until a fender bender and x-ray from a chiropractor revealed a small mass. In October 2013, surgery to remove the mass led to its diagnosis as Synovial Sarcoma. Kristin began surveillance at Moffit Cancer Center. In January 2017 she had a reoccurrence, and another successful surgery to remove the tumor. She was then blessed to be disease and pain-free long enough to go to nursing school and have her second daughter, Brielle, in October 2018.

In summer 2020 Kristin and her family moved to North Carolina when her husband Jeff was stationed at Camp Lejeune. Unfortunately, she soon experienced the return of the familiar pain and went to Duke Cancer Center where it was found that the cancer had returned and metastasized as stage IV synovial sarcoma. The following three years Kristin bravely battled through surgeries, chemo and radiation as well as a Car T-cell clinical trial in spring of 2022, which gave her six pain-free months to spend time working with her horse, watch her daughters dance and coach Brielle in her first horse shows.

In November 2022 the cancer began growing again, but was slowed for a time with radiation. In summer 2023 new treatments were started but failed, and treatment options were running out. In September 2023, she was set to begin one last chemotherapy attempt but the tumor had grown too rapidly and she instead entered hospice care where she passed away on September 16.

Kristin is survived by her daughters Hailee (18) and Brielle (5), husband Jeff, parents Steve & Patrice Rocha and Sharon Rocha, siblings Colleen and Justin, nieces and nephews Owen, Eva, Julian & Celeste.

Kristin's story continues by her wishes to help others through supporting the SFA.

Donate to #CureSarcoma Today!

Sarcoma accounts for 1% of adult cancers and 15-20% of childhood cancers. The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA)'s mission is to improve outcomes for people diagnosed with sarcoma and increase the number of survivors.

Kristin's Story



DONATE for a CURE



Sarcoma is sometimes curable by surgery (about 20% of the time), or by surgery with chemotherapy and/or radiation (another 50-55%), but about half the time they are totally resistant to all of these approaches — thus the extreme need for new therapeutic approaches. Your gift will be used to assist in medical research efforts toward finding a cure for sarcoma.

**INCREASING
AWARENESS
TO CREATE
SURVIVORS**



JULY IS

**SARCOMA
AWARENESS
MONTH**

#SarcomaAwarenessMonth



Sarcoma **SFA**
Foundation of America
finding the cure in our time