



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY®

fighting blood cancers

Honored Heroes are volunteers with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society who have been affected by a blood cancer. They provide inspiration and support to all who join LLS in creating a world without cancer.

Honored Hero

Jenna Benn

Age 29

Grey Zone Lymphoma

Jenna Benn is a proud survivor of Grey Zone Lymphoma, a rare blood disorder that affects less than 500 people in the United States. This form of cancer has features of both Hodgkins and Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.

In December 2010, after months of fatigue, weight loss, flu-like symptoms and night sweats, she knew that there was something very wrong. She went to the gym, thought she had lifted a weight improperly, and quickly went to her orthopedist to be checked out. A couple hours later over dinner at her favorite childhood restaurant, she was told that she had cancer. They had found a large mass in her chest.

“For those of us that have heard the three words, ‘You Have Cancer,’ we know what its like for time to stand still, and for our lives to be profoundly changed in just one moment,” said Jenna. That night, she decided that she was going to fight this disease with the tenacity in which she wanted to live.

She was determined to “kill cancer in the butt.” There was no other option. Later that evening she started a blog called Kill it in the Butt, which became a space where she could process her thoughts and feelings, communicate with family and friends, and connect with all types of survivors—not just cancer survivors.

After an aggressive non-Hodgkins regimen, multiple surgeries, scans, blood transfusions, and chemotherapy, and with the support of her “hotel Prentice” medical team, she left Northwestern Memorial Hospital on May 23, 2011 for what she sincerely hopes will be the last time.



Creating a World Without Cancer