

Cathy Betar Griffith, Class of 1981

Community Impact Award Winner

After high school Cathy attended Allegheny College of Maryland and received an Associate Arts degree in Dental Hygiene and worked as a dental hygienist in the Blair County Area for 32 years! In 2010 her beloved husband Greg was diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer at the age of 48.

Friends, family and the community helped establish The Greg and Cathy Griffith Family Foundation as a gift to the family during Greg's heroic 19 month battle with pancreatic cancer. After Greg passed, the foundation invited 9th grader Jack Andraka, the 2012 Intel Science and Engineer Fair Winner, to Blair County. Jack, along with High School students, created the "I CAN" signature campaign for Sideline Cancer.

The Sideline Cancer Youth Initiative is the only youth inspired pancreatic cancer initiative in the world that engages students to use their entrepreneurial and philanthropic spirit to raise awareness and funds for Sideline Pancreatic Cancer! From 2010 to date, the Foundation has donated \$295,000 to the research efforts of Dr. A. James Moser at BIDMC/Harvard Medical School.

Cathy is proud to have the help of many non-paid student interns and volunteers! To Cathy, the most rewarding part of being President of The Griffith Family Foundation is working with students of all ages across the United States and globally and encouraging them to believe always that together "We CAN Sideline Pancreatic Cancer"!

Volunteer Work and Organizations:

- Non-Paid President/CEO of The Griffith Family Foundation
- Member of The World Pancreatic Cancer Coalition
- Vice Chair of The Digestive Disease National Coalition in Washington DC
- Pancreatic Cancer Advocate with the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Association of Cancer Researchers, and the Research Action Network
- Founding Member of United We Can of Blair County, The Alliance of Families Fighting Pancreatic Cancer, The Courage for Kiera Foundation
- Member of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce and the Hollidaysburg Alumni Association

Cathy feels her family is her greatest love, and she is the proud Mother of two amazing sons Jordan and Jamie Griffith. She is blessed to have the support and love of her extended family, friends and community! One of her favorite hobbies is connecting people with similar interests and passions to one another and seeing everything as part of a bigger plan!

Favorite quote: Philippians 4:13 – "I CAN do all things through Christ who strengthens me.