

**Amy Grant Swafford – Dawsonville, GA:**

Why do I walk? The true question is why have I not walked before?

My mother was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1994. I was 16 years old and had no idea how this would impact the next year or the rest of my life. She had a mastectomy and received chemo and we thought everything was good until the next summer when the cancer returned to her lungs and part of her liver. After battling cancer for a year, I lost my mom on October 9, 1995. What I thought was going to just be the beginning of my senior year became what felt like the end of my life. Everything my mom did she did for me and I want to do the same.

Every step I will take on this walk will be to remember my mom and others that have lost their fight. I see how far treatments and medical advances have come in the last 11 years thanks to funds that have been raised through events such as this. It seems like weekly, even daily, we hear of others that have been diagnosed with some form of cancer and I want to do my part to stop this.

I walk for my mom, my aunts, my cousins, my friends and all women! Thanks for the opportunity to walk with you!

