

**Judie Castleberry Watson - originally from Dawson County
now living in Brunswick:**

Judie was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2001. While undergoing chemotherapy, she saw an ad for a 3-day breast cancer walk and wanted to do something to help other cancer victims as well as to keep others from going through what she had been through. She also walks in memory of her sister who died with ovarian cancer at 52 and brother who died at 43 from lung cancer.

Judie has raised \$10,000 for the 2002 walk and several thousand last year. She is asked to lead all types of cancer fundraisers in Brunswick and at her job at the Cloister at Sea Island, Georgia, because of her enthusiasm and work ethics. This year she led the Sea Island Company team in the Relay of Life raising almost \$60,000 as a team.

In 2006 her goal was to raise \$10,000. She actually exceeded that goal by a few hundred dollars and ended up in second place for individual fundraising out of almost 800 walkers. Of course, her 2007 goal is to finish in first place with even more money for the cause.

Several weeks prior to the 2006 walk, she suffered a fractured foot that was only confirmed three weeks before the walk. Three days before the walk, she returned to her doctor to be told that her foot had not improved and the doctor recommended a cast. She became extremely emotional and told him how much this walk meant to her and she had to have a note from him before she would be allowed to walk. Of course, she left with a note saying that she could do "part of" the walk. Naturally she did not miss the opportunity to ask the doctor for a donation.

Judie's story (continued)

In 2002 Judie was stopped for speeding near Jacksonville, FL. After receiving just a warning, she had the nerve to ask the patrolman for a donation for her cancer walk. Surprisingly, the officer said his wife's best friend also had breast cancer and he handed *her* some money.

Judie and her original teammates have vowed to keeping walking as long as they are physically able and to become crew volunteers when they can no longer walk.



Judie Watson walked over 10 miles in 2006 with a fractured foot. Luckily her roommate Saturday night turned out to be a physical therapist. The only thing stopping her was the fact that her soft cast was falling apart. Her determination earned her a spot on the evening news that weekend.

SURVIVOR