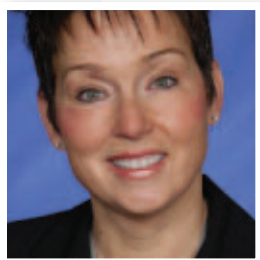


PATIENT-CENTERED CANCER
CARE SINCE 1956

Hall Radiation Center

**“Today,
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*James Robinson
Mercy volunteer
and cancer survivor*



Ann Collins-Hattery
Director
Mercy Regional Cancer Center

**Two to four weeks.
That’s how much time
James Robinson, 49,
Cedar Rapids, was
given to live.**

That was ten years ago. Today, he’s celebrating a decade of survival.

Diagnosed with a glioblastoma grade four brain tumor in 1998, James underwent surgery immediately. He received his follow-up radiation treatment and chemotherapy at Mercy Medical Center. Now, 10 years later, his story has come full circle.

Every Friday morning, you can find James in Mercy’s Hall Radiation Center – no longer as a patient, but as volunteer – giving back to the one area that contributed to saving his life, and providing a positive outlook to those facing cancer. His wife, Pattine, works at Mercy in the Digestive Health Center.

“It’s the least I can do to help out by giving something back. I’ve been able to develop some great friendships with patients and share my experiences with those going through a similar diagnosis as mine,” says James.

“James is warm and caring and so in tune with patients and staff. Since he has already been where the patients are now, he knows what they need to hear and anticipates their needs,” expresses Marie Brown, receptionist, Hall Radiation Center.

James also has been able to see how cancer-fighting technology has evolved since he received treatment.

“Today, the medical knowledge is unmatched. With technology like TomoTherapy, there are better results against cancer,” says James.

“Technology has really improved since James was treated, but that being said, it’s pretty hard to discount any treatment that produced the outcome James had. With our new technology, today James’s treatment field would be a little more exact, approaching the tumor from more angles, and sparing more normal brain tissue, but I have to say that he has done amazingly well for a pretty long time,” says Ann Collins-Hattery, Director, Mercy Regional Cancer Center.

In addition to sharing his experiences through volunteering, Robinson also created a collection of poetry, “Because I’m Alive,” to chronicle his battle with cancer. But it’s more than a book of poems – it’s his way of life.

“It’s about hope, and being grateful for each day. It’s about being strong and having faith – through sadness and celebrations,” explains James.

Mercy’s Hall Radiation Center volunteer and cancer survivor James Robinson created a collection of poetry, “Because I’m Alive,” to chronicle his battle with cancer.

