



# Bright Light Foundation

## **Patty Breaux**

*2010 BLF Recipient*



Patty Dupre Breaux was born August 30, 1960. I am Married to Michael J. Breaux for 32 years. We Have two children our daughter Kristina Breaux Gill married to Brandon Gill, and our son Jimmy Breaux and his Fiancé Melissa Wagner. We have four wonderful grandchildren Trent, Karmyn, Jacoby, and Jaydance. We all reside in Houma, La. I worked for 21 years for Chabert Medical Center, nine years short of retirement with the state due to medical problems. Mike worked for Halliburton Energy Services for 34 years 7 months and 2 days. Unfortunately August 2, 2010 the Company let him go.

In 2005, I was having problems with my gallbladder and needed to have surgery. Well when I was 5 yrs old I had Meningococcal Meningitis which over the years I was diagnosed with Mitro valve Prolapse. As you know, you need a surgery clearance when you have anything wrong with your heart. When I was going through the test my heart doctor saw that I was in A-Fib. Which means my heart was beating 300 times per minute. Well I was put into ICU to get medically sedated to get my rhythm back in sync. This happened at least three times. My doctor sent me to another heart specialist to see if a pacemaker would help me. He agreed that I would need a Pacemaker/ Defibrillator. I am on my second Pacemaker/Defibrillator the batteries are only good for 4 - 5 years. I also had a blood clot go to my lungs in 2008 which put me back in ICU with heart failure and Pneumonia. I did end up having my

gallbladder removed in 2009 after a horrible attack, had five nice size stones. I was doing well then suddenly I was having shortness of breath and not able to do hardly any thing. That is when my Heart Doctor felt that he was no longer able to do anything for me. He referred me to Houston Texas, in August 2009 where I was again hospitalized in St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital undergoing test from head to toe. I was sent to a relatives house with 24 hour IV having Home Health Check on me every other day. The Iv medication stop working for me. So I was again admitted to St. Luke's. I was then told I would need a mechanical Heart Pump. On Oct 31, 2009 I had the LVAD (Left Ventricular Assistive Device) surgery. I stayed in ICU for a week or two, then they moved me to another floor to start my healing process and training of the equipment that had been placed in me. Stayed in the hospital until November. I then had to rent a furnished apartment in Houston for a month. I had to go for clinic visits once a week until I felt comfortable with the sounds of the alarms and the knowledge of the device and changing of my dressings.

I Was finally able to come home to Houma, La. On December 16th 2009. I have to go to Houston, Texas. Once a month for my LVAD clinic appointments. I just recently went back into the hospital to find that I have a bacteria that has attacked my blood, So now on another medicine for life or until Transplant. Which is pending until one is found that fits all of my blood type and tissues. There are so many factors of a Heart Transplant it is unreal. Our biggest issue is the financial burden this has put in our life and with both of us not working it has been very hard. But with God, My Family, Friends and my LVAD in my life I am living life as if I have a healthy heart. We really want to thank your organization for choosing us as recipients of Bright Light Foundation of 2010. It takes special people like you to raise money for people you do not even know. So give yourselves a pat on the back because you all well deserve it. God Bless each and everyone of you.