



Bright Light Foundation

Michael J. Gros

2013 BLF Recipient



My name is Michael J. Gros and I am 52 yrs old. I have been married for 28 yrs to Darlene V. Gros. We have 1 daughter and two grandchildren. I was a structural fitter with New Industries in Morgan City, La. I have worked in the oilfield business for around 35 yrs. (onshore & offshore).

I was diagnosed with Stage 3 Duodenal Adenocarcinoma in January 2013. This is a rare cancer on top of the small bowels. The cancer was found during surgery to remove my

gallbladder. After a 3 week stay in the hospital, I immediately went to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Tx. During more testing, the doctors realized that the tumor was attached to my main superior artery. We were told that I was inoperable unless they could get it off the artery.

So, I started a four- month treatment plan of two kinds of chemo. This was done at Thibodaux Cancer Center under MD Andersons directions. We have now relocated to Houston to receive radiation and more chemo in hopes of shrinking the tumor off of the artery. Some of the effects from the treatments that I suffer from are fatigue, nausea, and the worst being neuropathy. The doctors have confidence that this should work..If (when) it does shrink , then surgery will be scheduled. Surgery will be 10 - 15 hrs long.

I have been disabled since all this has taken place. We feel very blessed for having support from our family and friends. Cancer changes everything in your life. Physically, Emotionally, and Financially.

I would like to thank New Industries for nominating me and Bright Light Foundation for allowing me to be a recipient for 2013. May God Bless You All.