

I am also a victim of exposure to TCE at Camp Lejeune. I have male breast cancer. Male breast cancer is very rare in men. According to The American Cancer Society only 2,000 men will be diagnosed with male breast cancer in the United States this year. If we put that in perspective, breast cancer is about 100 times less common among men than women. For men, the risk of breast cancer is 1/10 of 1%. Most men with male breast cancer are between 60-70 years of age. Additionally, most of these men also have a family history of the disease.

Not only do I have a rare form of cancer, I am younger than the majority of men that do have breast cancer. Three years ago, at the age of 47, the diagnosis came. I do not smoke, drink alcohol and have no family members with breast cancer. Additionally, I have had the genetic test for breast cancer and it was determined that I do not carry the gene.

My connection to the TCE contamination occurred at Camp Lejeune. I lived on base at Tarawa Terrace from around 1966 through 1970 and attended the elementary school on base. I played in the drainage ditch by my house, the canal and the New River constantly during the years that my family lived at Tarawa Terrace. The address was 1551 Matanikau Street.

Currently, I am through with chemo and am continuing to work at regaining my strength.