

March 11, 2016

Dear Family and Friends,

We want to thank each of you for your many expressions of love and kindness through words and deeds. The countless calls, cards, emails, gifts and especially prayers have been deeply appreciated and they have touched us in ways too difficult to express...

With the removal of Linda's gall bladder in October, and the discovery and diagnosis of pancreatic cancer and other areas of cancer, we have trusted the LORD to guide, not only us, but also the doctors, nurses, technicians and staff at Duke Hospital through the radiation, chemo, surgery and with the follow-up treatments. God gave us the strength to hold firm and trust in His mercy and grace. We knew everything was in His hands and we felt secure and at peace knowing that God's love would sustain us regardless.

Please understand that Linda had one of the most aggressive pancreatic cancer that exists. The surgeon said that Linda's cancer had something called a "signet ring" which meant that, except for a miracle, Linda had only months to live, and surgery most likely was not possible... There was also a mass of cancer just below the liver. Nevertheless the doctors agreed to "try" chemo and radiation, and if the scans and tests showed that the cancers had shrunk and were possible to remove, Linda could have the surgery... We believe that God intervened, and that He guided the chemo and radiation treatments which allowed the surgery.

The Whipple surgery took more than 9 hours and required removing 3/8's of the pancreas, 1/2 of the stomach, a portion of the intestines and 24 lymph nodes to test for possible spread of cancer. We just got the test results and all 24 lymph nodes had no cancer! Also the section of the pancreas that was removed, which had most of the cancer pre-operation, had no cancer at all! The LORD and your faithfulness in prayer resulted in what we believe was a miracle! To GOD be the glory!

We were told that no signs of any cancer with the "signet ring marker" had only happened 3 times before in the past 12 years.

The news was overwhelming to us. There were tears of joy with the staff and us, and a time to praise God and to express our belief that God answered our prayers and the prayers of people known and unknown to us.

Even though no cancer was found during the surgery, Linda will have IV chemo treatments as a precaution and preventative— possibly starting in April. We know God will continue to lead, guide and sustained us through whatever lies ahead...

There are so many people, churches and groups that have lifted our needs up to God... We are humbled by this outpouring of love and support and wish we could write each person or church privately, but it is not possible to thank each person or group adequately.

With all that said, we want to take this opportunity to thank you and say that we treasure you and are so grateful for your love, support and prayers!

Finally, may God receive the praise and glory and may we live in a way to bring honor to His name!

With love and grateful appreciation!

Clay and Linda Eaton