

THE FIRST BOOK EVER ABOUT LIVING WITH WEGENER'S GRANULOMATOSIS

THERE MUST BE A REASON

My Daughter's Battle With
Wegener's Granulomatosis

By Myrna Swart

"I suspect Wegener's granulomatosis," Dr. Haring said.
"Mom, my nose hurts worse than it's ever hurt before. It feels like it's broken."
"Mom, I haven't been able to go to class for three days and my car is gone."
"Mom, I've been hot and cold, perspiring and shivering, I'm completely covered with a rash and I have one of the worst headaches I've ever had."
"Mom, I'm urinating blood."
"My knees hurt really bad, Mom. I don't know if I can get out of bed and ... "
"They're sending me to Denver by ambulance. I need a blood transfusion."
"I think I have chicken pox. Can that happen to someone who's 30?"
"My eye is sticking out of my head and I'm seeing double."
"Mom, my hand is swollen and there are red streaks going up my arm."
"There's a lump in my groin."

It seemed that, where Carol was concerned, from the time she was 16 there was one crisis after another. At that tender age my only daughter began fighting a little known rare disease called Wegener's granulomatosis. It began around the time she wanted to change the shape of her nose. The disease brought about that change in a way she couldn't possibly have anticipated. Before she was 30 she would know unbelievable pain and unimaginable fear. She would experience many crisis situations and emerge with more will to survive, and thrive, than I would ever have believed.

But she would also find a way to reach out to others and bring them comfort and support. She would actually save lives. One day it would become clear that there was a reason that she had been chosen to endure this calamity as she finds the answer to the question: "Why me?"

Her story began in 1978 during her junior year in high school. Her battle with Wegener's granulomatosis, and the aftermath of the chronic autoimmune disease, changed her life and indeed the lives of our entire family.

It is my wish that our experiences will lend support, comfort and hope to others facing a similar battle.

Sales of this book will benefit the Vasculitis Foundation, to further its efforts toward awareness, education, and research, along with offering comfort, and support to those with chronic autoimmune conditions.

To purchase this book, go online at: www.iuniverse.com, www.amazon.com, www.barnesandnoble.com or www.bordersstores.com and bring up the title: There Must Be A Reason. The book can be ordered in either hardcover for \$36.95 or paperback for \$26.95.

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