YOUR VICTORY REPORT
Ringing the Bell | Crediting Research | Thrive to Fundraiser

In 1993, he helped Jim Valvano onto the stage at the ESPYS. Since that day, Dick Vitale has been helping the V Foundation for Cancer Research pursue Jim’s goal: Victory Over Cancer®.

For years, Dick has used his unmistakable voice and unrivaled passion to raise money to support pediatric cancer research.

In 2021, he was diagnosed with cancer. Then, he was forced to take a break from broadcasting after pre-cancerous dysplasia was found on his vocal cords.

His voice, the voice that rings in the ears of any college basketball fan, had been taken away. But nothing could stop Dick Vitale from fighting for kids battling cancer.

HE’S AWESOME, BABY, WITH A CAPITAL A

In 2021, he was diagnosed with cancer. Then, he was forced to take a break from broadcasting after pre-cancerous dysplasia was found on his vocal cords. His goals never changed. He continued to push for donations while undergoing cancer treatment and resting his voice. On April 14, he rang the bell after scans showed he was cancer-free. On May 6, he raised more than $11 million at his annual Gala, a new record, taking his total raised through the event to $55 million.

Dick will be honored at the 2022 ESPYS with the Jimmy V Perseverance Award. The ESPYS will air Wednesday, July 20 at 8 p.m. on ABC. Join us in congratulating Dick!

You can learn more at v.org/dickvitale
ALL I WANTED WAS A CHANCE

At 49 years young, Tom Vibert, a cycling enthusiast, found a lump in his abdomen. Suddenly, he was undergoing a partial colectomy and facing stage four metastatic colon cancer. The goal was to survive. After two years of chemotherapy and radiation, the tumors shrank, but always returned. The cancer was growing, which caused tremendous pain. He could not eat, sleep and now could not function without large doses of narcotics. He obtained a second and third opinion, and still options were few.

After genetic testing, Tom learned he carries the hereditary biomarker MSI-H. This increases the risk of certain cancers due to a lack of immune system response. The MSI-H marker qualified Tom for a clinical trial using an immunotherapy drug approved for lung and melanoma cancer. The immunotherapy ignited his immune system and saved his life. The research provided him a chance.

Today, Tom advocates for early screening for colon cancer and raises money for cancer research by riding in events like the V Foundation’s Victory Ride to Cure Cancer. Tom likes to do what cancer tried to stop him from doing: going on 100-mile bike rides and that’s “getting in cancer’s face.”

“The clinical trial was a game-changer. I felt like I was finally playing offense. And now this research may provide others their chance.” – Tom Vibert

SOLVING ONE OF NATURE’S MOST CHALLENGING PUZZLES

Shruti Naik, Ph.D., from NYU’s Langone Cancer Center, is studying the role of inflammation in the development of cancer. Inflammation is directly linked to 20% of cancers. She and her team are studying how acute inflammation makes changes in the body that help tissues become hospitable to cancer cells. Their research will help us learn how tumors form. With that information, scientists can develop strategies for early intervention of certain cancers.

“Cancer research is important to me because I hope that one day my work can help detect and treat cancers or even stop them before they form. Support from the V Foundation put my research group on an upward trajectory and helped us venture into new research areas.” – Shruti Naik, Ph.D.
ON POINT: TEXAS BALL PLAYER TAKES CHARGE OF CANCER RESEARCH

Andrew Jones was living the dream of millions of kids. He had started 23 games as a freshman for the University of Texas men’s basketball team, and with his sophomore year underway, was ready to follow in the footsteps of former Texas basketball legends.

Then, the postgame fatigue started. It was unlike anything Andrew had ever dealt with. After being sent for tests by the University medical staff, the diagnosis was leukemia.

Andrew immediately went into treatment at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and spent the second half of his sophomore season in recovery. He remained a part of the Longhorns team and was never far from a basketball. He eventually returned to the court and was named to the All-Big 12 Honorable Mention team in the 2019-20 season. He helped lead the Longhorns to their first-ever Big 12 Tournament championship in March 2021.

Just returning to the court wasn’t enough for Andrew. He wanted to use his platform to help others fight this disease. He has entered a partnership with the V Foundation to donate a percentage of each dollar he makes via Name, Image, and Likeness earnings to support cancer research.

Andrew knows the importance of funding cutting-edge research. Thanks to his support, we’ll continue putting a full-court press on cancer.

“To be able to share my story on how this foundation has impacted my life while paying that forward to future families impacted by cancer is an honor.”

— Andrew Jones

WITH YOUR HELP, THE V FOUNDATION AWARDED MORE THAN $21 MILLION IN CANCER RESEARCH GRANTS IN 2021

100% OF YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS CANCER RESEARCH

The V Foundation has an endowment that covers administrative expenses.
THANK YOU!
FOR GIVING CANCER PATIENTS MORE TIME TO
“LAUGH, THINK AND CRY!”

“DON’T GIVE UP... DON’T EVER GIVE UP!”®
– Jim Valvano

Visit v.org to learn more.