



Prostate
Cancer
Foundation

As long as I'm alive, I will do everything in my power to help end prostate cancer. That's why I'm sharing my personal story . . . and joining the Prostate Cancer Foundation in the urgent fight against this terrible disease.

– S. Ward Casscells, MD

March 2008

Dear Friend,

I'll never forget the day my 5-year-old son came home from school, worried. One of the other kids told him I was going to die.

Statistically speaking, my son's friend was right. I'd been diagnosed with metastatic prostate cancer, which had already spread to dozens of my bones.

The prognosis: 17 months to live.

How could this be happening?

At 48, I had always prided myself on staying in good health. I was at the peak of a successful career as a cardiologist and professor. And I had three young children who needed their daddy.

This wasn't the way things were supposed to end.

Yet there I was . . . in a fierce battle with a disease that claims the lives of tens of thousands of men every year.

My family was stunned. Roxanne, my wife, was faced with the reality of raising our children on her own. And our kids were gripped by the fear of losing their father.

I wanted to scream or cry, but I didn't have time. There were important things to be done.

I envisioned writing letters to my children and making a videotape for them to remember me. I was preparing for what seemed like the inevitable.

But that feeling of hopelessness changed the day I met with my doctor, a Prostate Cancer Foundation-funded oncologist at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

After giving me a thorough examination, he looked at me and said, "We can get you fixed up."

I believed him.

The doctor immediately prescribed an aggressive integrated regimen of hormones and chemotherapy—a treatment that was developed through research funded by the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

(over, please)

**Just a few years ago, my only option would have been hormonal therapy,
which would have been effective for about one year.**

But during my treatment, which included multiple rounds of different chemotherapies and intravenous radiation therapy, I learned about some of the groundbreaking research projects supported by the Prostate Cancer Foundation such as GVAX, a drug now in phase 3 clinical trials that boosts the immune system to fight off prostate cancer cells.

The fight against prostate cancer has come a long way. But this year alone, 218,000 more men will be diagnosed with the disease and 27,000 will die.

I could have easily been a statistic.

But thanks to the Prostate Cancer Foundation and the scientists and research they support, I'm alive to tell you about it. I'm feeling good. And I've changed my lifestyle . . .

I'm exercising and getting outdoors more often. I've altered my diet because of studies supported by the Prostate Cancer Foundation showing that certain foods can prolong life for people with prostate cancer. I'm convinced that the PCF's support of dietary and lifestyle research may be just as critical to my survival as the medical treatment.

Now I'm committed to do whatever I can to help put an end to this disease. The way I see it, science may or may not find a cure. But if I don't help raise money for research that could lead to a breakthrough, well . . . shame on me.

That's why I'm urging you to join me today to support the lifesaving work of the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

《 《 The Prostate Cancer Foundation is the world's largest philanthropic source of support for prostate cancer research—having funded more than 1,400 critical projects in 100 research centers around the world. 《 《


And for men battling the disease—and their families—it's a tremendous source of hope.

That hope lies in new research projects. And because we don't know which projects will produce the most promising results, we must find a way to support as many of these critical programs as possible.

I've given my all to help ensure this important research continues. I hope you will give generously, too—and join me in the fight against this deadly disease.

Please send a gift today—and help save the life of someone's husband . . . father . . . brother . . . son.

Sincerely,



S. Ward Casscells, MD

P.S. Thanks to the work of the Prostate Cancer Foundation, I am alive today. And I look forward to seeing my children graduate someday. Please join me in supporting this most important cause. Because lives are depending on it. And please make sure to check the back of the enclosed reply slip to learn the risk factors for this disease that we must defeat. Thank you!

《 《 P.P.S. I also encourage you to ask for your **free copy** of our *Report to the Nation on Prostate Cancer: A Guide for Men and Their Families*. This guide will give you or someone you love detailed information about treatment options for prostate cancer and other critical information. 《 《

*Please use the enclosed address labels as our
gift to you for helping us find a cure!*