

CHRISTINA  
PATIENT – BREAST CANCER

# BREAST CANCER VICTIM SURVIVOR

A woman with dark hair, wearing a pink athletic t-shirt, black leggings, and pink sneakers, is running on a grassy path in a park. She is smiling and looking towards the right. The background is a lush green park with trees and sunlight filtering through the leaves.

Christina was only 36, with two young kids, and in the midst of training for an adventure race when she received a shocking surprise. She had breast cancer.

Unusual symptoms had led the physically active engineer to a self-exam, then a check by her UC Davis Health OB/GYN. Cancer wasn't on Christina's radar — but when the doctor ordered a mammogram, it revealed a tumor. UC Davis Health specialists later performed bilateral mastectomy and reconstruction in the same operation, followed by chemotherapy and radiation.

Four years, a Spartan race and two half-marathons later, Christina is still cancer-free. She urges young women to be familiar with their bodies and family histories, to assess risks and screening needs.

**UC DAVIS**  
**HEALTH**

[health.ucdavis.edu](https://health.ucdavis.edu)