

Breathe Free 5K Run / Walk for Sharon Riedmann

Submitted by Becca Ellison

From Borsheims' "Facts & Facets" 11/4/11

When I moved to Omaha I got a job at a local jewelry store here in Omaha, NE. Never in my life have I been a part of such a caring company. Not only does Borsheims have this incredible sense of family between all of its co-workers, but when trials and hard times come into the lives of the families who work here, it seems like everyone comes together to support one another in any way that they can. I have experienced this first-hand in the short amount of time I have worked here.

One member of the Borsheims family is **Sharon (Riedmann)**. She has been part of Borsheims for over 20 years now, and was diagnosed with lung cancer. Through her battle with the disease, she has received countless support from her friends, family and co-workers. One of my co-workers mentioned they were going to the Breathe Free 5k Run / Walk to support a member of the Borsheims staff, and asked if I wanted to join. I said "Of course! . . . and can I bring my camera?". The day before the walk/run, almost everyone working that Friday wrote on a burgundy ribbon and tied it to a golf cart for Sharon to ride in. By the end of the day there was barely any room to add more ribbons on the cart. I had never met Sharon until the walk/run the following Saturday. As I looked at her shirt, it proudly said the word "Survivor" and that truly does encompass who Sharon is. She is beautiful inside and out and it was so cool to see about 20 co-workers and numerous family show up for her and for the whole Breathe Free campaign.

During the race on Saturday, my co-workers and I walked as a unit to support Sharon. Our CEO even came out for this occasion (I bet you couldn't name too many CEOs who would set aside time in their busy day to support their staff this way). It was a truly amazing day, filled with love, laughter and also standing up and showing support for those you love. Sharon is a true inspiration to me and everyone she meets. To find out more about the Breathe Free Foundation or to make a donation, please go to the Breathe Free website, <http://www.freetobreathe.com>.

