

New York Runner's Inspiring Quest to Run the Disney Wine & Dine Half Marathon with One Lung

Westchester resident returns to Walt Disney World Resort which she says saved her life

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (Nov. 4, 2018) – Debbie Rogers, the 55-year old **Westchester, N.Y.**, native and mother of five children, credits Walt Disney World Resort with saving her life.

Rogers finished the 13.1-mile Disney Wine & Dine Half Marathon on Nov. 4 with only one healthy lung, as a result of lung cancer doctors discovered roughly 10 months ago, after she completed the 26.2-mile Disney Marathon in January.

It was during that January race at Disney that Rogers injured her foot. What she thought was a routine trip to the doctor to examine the foot turned out to be a life-altering affair, after doctors discovered a tumor on her right lung.

Because the foot injury prompted her to seek medical attention, doctors caught the cancer early, which made a full recovery far more likely. Despite having part of her right lung removed during surgery on the tumor, she is healthy enough again to run, and fittingly, made her return to competitive running at the one place – Disney – that she said “saved my life.”

“Had I not trained for the Disney Marathon and not have had a running injury and not have completed the marathon, they would have found the lung cancer too late,” Rogers said. “It is very, very rare to find early stage lung cancer!!”