

Lisa Milligan -  
Founder & President of Golfing for the Gals

After a long battle with debilitating symptoms and physical trauma, I found myself in my doctor's office with a diagnosis of cancer. I was diagnosed with stage two endometrial (uterine) cancer in April 2017 and was referred to Dr Paola Gehrig, at the University of North Carolina where I underwent a complete hysterectomy, pelvic radiation, and brachytherapy.

My life's dream was to be a professional golfer; however, I was not able to make that happen, but my determination and love of the game, despite obstacles, has enriched my life on so many levels. It occurred to me that a fundraising event aligning with my passion made perfect sense. Out of this idea, Golfing for the Gals was born. The inaugural event was held during one of the most challenging years facing the country, during a worldwide pandemic in 2020. The difficulty that I faced planning and hosting this event during the pandemic was not unlike the adversity confronted by many cancer survivors. Nonetheless, I preserved and held the event safely and successfully.

While rallying support for the event and sharing my story with women, I was shocked to learn the large number of women diagnosed with varying stages of endometrial cancer.

One of the important things to always note when discussing Uterine cancer is that no one ever talks about this cancer. You hear about ovarian cancer and other cancers that women have, but not this one. And that needs to change. It's time to make a difference and help this critical work of endometrial cancer research, education, awareness and ultimately a cure.

I am hopeful and determined that the success of this annual fundraiser will take one of the least funded areas of gynecologic cancer to making it the most funded. Golfing for the Gals is my way of making that difference happen!

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