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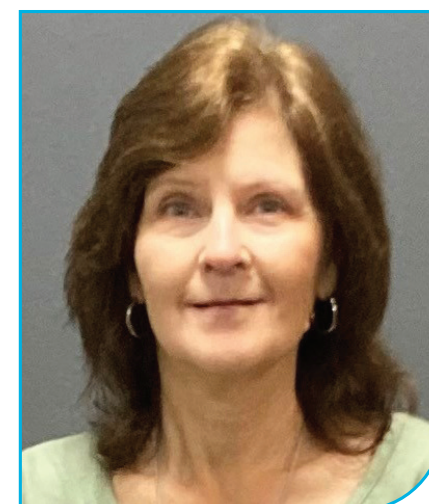
JERI RIPPON

DIAGNOSED IN 1995 // MY MS STORY

My story starts with a trip to have my eyes examined to update my glasses. During the exam, the eye doctor said you need to go see a neurologist. So many thoughts went through my mind in minutes, I came to get my eyes examined, what do you mean a neurologist, oh my gosh why would he want me to go see a neurologist?

I went to my family doctor that day and he set me up with a neurologist and thought it might be multiple sclerosis. But because I did not have health insurance, I had to wait one year to have tests done to determine if that was it. I came home that day and immediately gave this to God not knowing what MS was or what it meant for my life in the future. That was in 1994.

Once I was diagnosed in 1995 with having relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis, I did everything I could to find out more about it and knew that I wanted to live the best life I could, not knowing what my future might hold. Fast forward I have done many Walk MS® events and since 2015 I have ridden in Bike MS®: Texas MS 150 each year. I feel that I am blessed because I can use my experiences to help others that have anything that comes into their life. I use my experiences to help share a positive experience and how to overcome fear of the unknown. MS has affected my fine motor skills on my right side so I have learned how to write with my left hand, and I may not be the fastest to finish the bike rides or to walk or to run but I get it done. I will continue to do all I can as long as I am able.



I may have multiple sclerosis, but it does not have me. I hope that you will look at life as a positive and not for the negative and the situations that may come your way.

#BIKEMS
#TEXASMS150

*Don't just **ride**, Bike MS*