



Hartford HealthCare  
St. Vincent's Medical Center

# Swim Talk NEWSLETTER



February 2023 Published by the Swim Marathon Committee

## Attention: Boaters, Swimmers and Volunteers

Registration is NOW OPEN for the  
**36<sup>th</sup> Annual Swim Across the Sound Marathon!**  
**July 29, 2023**

**[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE OR REGISTER](#)**

### Why the Swim?

*By Glenn Carlson, Boat Captain*

My family's involvement in the SWIM began in 2016 after my Mom passed from Pancreatic Cancer. She was initially diagnosed in the late 2000's and was deemed in remission in 2011. She was gifted 5 additional years before the cancer came back in 2016. She was officially re-diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer on Easter, 27 March 2016 and passed on Mother's Day, 8 May 2016.



The SWIM supported her and our family with medication, care, transportation and hospice care. We had a desire to give back, donations were and are key, but I felt there was something missing, so I visited the SWIM webpage and noticed the call for boats, boat captains and crew, so my son and I signed up and we have participated in each SWIM since then, trailering our boat from Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire to Bridgeport, CT. We love being out on the water and have served as a perimeter, rover, escort and even a tow boat.

As Paul Harvey would say ...  
The Rest of the Story ... My  
experience with Cancer Support  
Groups began in 1993 when I



was stationed at Castle AFB, CA as B-52 Electronic Warfare Officer. One of the Airman at Castle had a child who was diagnosed with Leukemia and at the next blood drive on the base, they asked folks to consider joining the Bone Marrow donor registry; both my

wife and I donated blood and joined the registry.

Fast Forward to 1999, I received a phone call from the CW Bill Young Foundation informing me that I was a potential match for a cancer patient. After much bloodwork, a physical and interview at Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington DC; I was informed that I was THE match. The Air Force supported my desire and decision to donate, and the CW Bill Young Foundation provided resources for my wife and I to travel from Montgomery, AL to Washington DC for the donation and for her Mom to fly from Las Vegas, NV to AL to watch our son. The donation was successful and five years after the donation we met my recipient Nick, a true cowboy and oilman from Texas. Nick had battled cancer three times prior to the bone marrow donation. Nine years later his body began to reject my marrow so I donated stem cells, Nick lived another nine years before the cancer took his life in 2018.

Cancer is an awful disease that has taken too many lives of family, friends, recipients, and fellow servicemen and women. Organizations like the SWIM provide direct and essential resources to patients and their families making life more comfortable and easing the pain and stress of cancer, and that is why I support the SWIM.



**Join Us on July 29th and Make a Difference in the Lives of Others!**

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## HOW ELSE CAN I GET INVOLVED?

***There are several ways you can help Swim Across the Sound raise money to support cancer patients in our community. Here are just a few:***

- Donate toward a swimmer or make a general donation by visiting: <https://charity.pledgeit.org/SwimAcrossTheSound>
- Participate virtually in an activity of your choice. Register and set your own fundraising goals at: <https://charity.pledgeit.org/VirtualChallenge>

**For more information about how you can help, please call 203-576-5451**

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## **Sponsor Spotlight Recognizes**



*We spoke to Scott Morrison, Cigna General Manager for Connecticut and New England:*

Thank you to **Cigna** who has joined Swim Across the Sound as a Blue Ribbon Sponsor in 2023!

Cigna has graciously supported other areas of work at St. Vincent's Medical Center, like with our Food Distribution Program in 2022, and we are honored to have them join us as a new sponsor for Swim Across the Sound!

***Who is Cigna?***

As a global health service company, Cigna's mission is to improve the health, well-being, and peace of mind of those we serve. We make health care more affordable, predictable and simple for you and your family with convenient access to care everywhere.

Our values guide how all 74,000 of Cigna's employees around the world work together, serve our customers, patients, clients, communities, and deliver on our mission.

***How long have you been supporting Swim Across the Sound?***

This is our first year supporting Swim Across the Sound, and we cannot be more excited to ...

**[READ COMPLETE ARTICLE HERE](#)**

**[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)**



**Swim Across the Sound 2023**

Registration is NOW OPEN for the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Swim Across the Sound Marathon.

**[Click Here to Register as a Boater, Swimmer or Volunteer](#)**

**We look forward to seeing you July 29th!**

St. Vincent's Medical Center | Philanthropy Department  
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