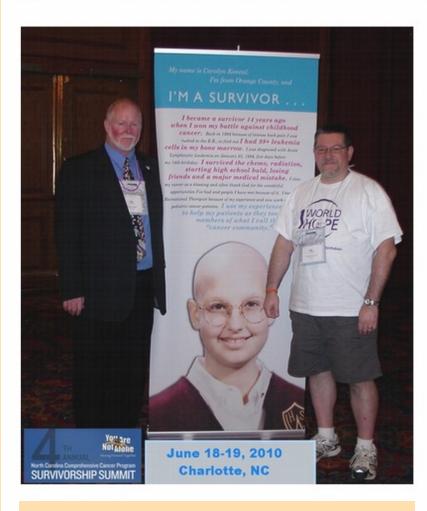
A Quick View of...

North Carolina Comprehenshive Cancer Program SURVIVORSHIP SUMMIT Charlotte, North Carolina • June 18-19

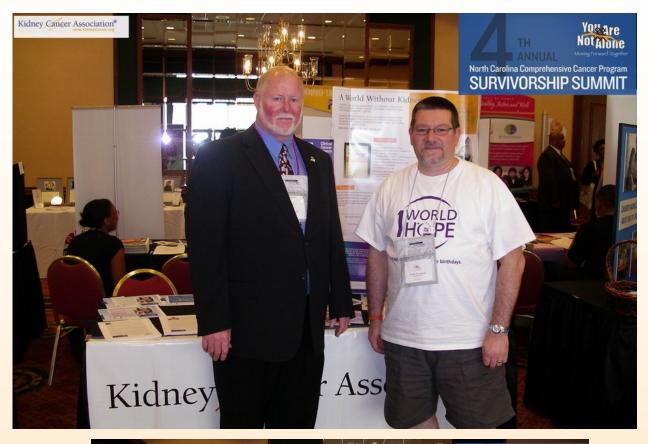


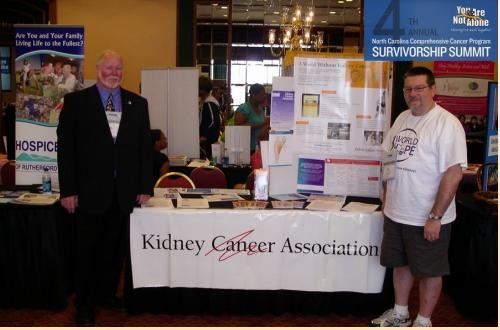
MICKERAL & CHAZ AT THE SUMMIT



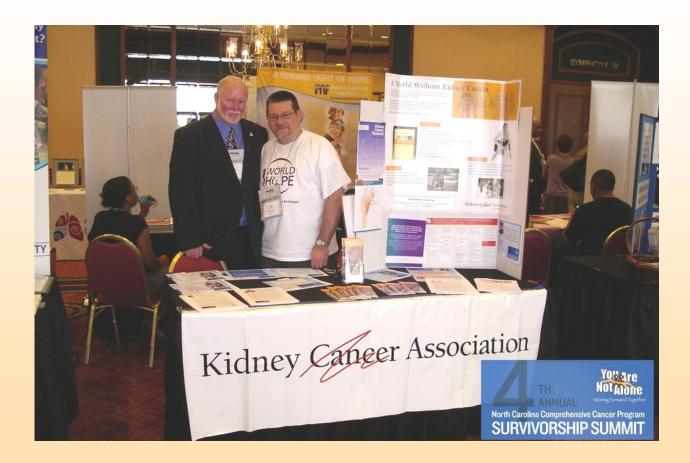
are

Chaz Handled the Booth





Mickeral(L) and Chaz(R) have an opportunity to Visit



The 4th Annual NC Cancer Survivorship Summit

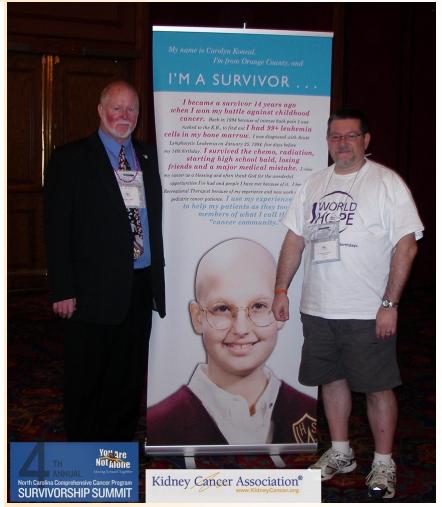
Turned out to be quite an experience for Charlie "Chaz" Monteleone, a 3year Survivor of Kidney Cancer. While Charlie (as some people know him) Is active in a local Kidney Cancer Support Group at Duke Hospital in Durham, NC, near his home in Burlington, and is a regular contributor and participant in discussions on the *Kidney Cancer Forum* an Internet discussion group for survivors, caregivers, and those involved in dealing with the day-to-day- challenges of kidney cancer, "Chaz" (as many know him) had not been involved in a large gathering of survivors and caregivers such as this. The *Forum*, which is sponsored and hosted by the *Kidney Cancer Association - www.kidneycancer.org* has a worldwide audience and an enrollment of some 3000+ "members" is a medium of "faceless" survivors, known only by written words as a rule;

The Summit is a vibrant, vocal, visual, expression Of Survivorship.

Survivor Dynamics

While the 4th Annual Summit did not quite have the entire number of registrants present at any single event, the Dynamics of Survivorship were present in abundance.

Despite its taking place this year in Charlotte, when in previous years it had been in Greenville, NC and closer to the Triangle area of the state, people from the Western region of the state, from the Triangle area, and from the Eastern counties showed up in abundance to celebrate, to learn, to share, to be inspired... and to inspire.



This was not a cancer-type gathering of survivors, nor a gathering of those with a certain prognosis, this was a gathering of those who had determined to "defy the outcome" of their diagnosis. For some, getting to the Summit would be a great challenge, not so much because of transportation and distance, but because of physical limitations that were imposed upon their body.

The Planning Committee had anticipated some people having difficulty in going through the buffet-style serving lines during meals, but in spite of walkers, canes, and wheelchairs, few availed themselves of the convenience of having someone prepare their plate.

Such are the *Dynamics of Survival* -- they are actions that refuse to lay down what independence and self-care can be maintained from a physical standpoint. They are actions that ask questions, that seek knowledge, and that deeply appreciate the opportunity to gather with others to celebrate the reality of life, to enjoy the moment of camaraderie and friendship. The Summit has become a gathering place for many who are separated by miles, and are joined by a common item... a cancer experience.

Those who have been to previous Summits, see other "veterans" of the Survivorship celebration and renew acquaintances and share stories, hope, compassion, and resolve.

And as the Summit Adjourns for 2010, the promise to "be at the next Summit" is heard over and over.



Charlie Tells His Story...

During the Open-Mike Session at the Summit, Charlie tells of his cancer experience... Much of the Summit Sessions were video-taped: we hope to present his story once the editing and copies of Tapes are available.

The NC Survivorship Summit, 2010 Has ended... But the lessons, The inspiration, The Hope, The determination To Survive Has not ended... Warmest Wishes, Mickeral and Chaz

