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10/26/2012: Thank you for the invitation to be honored as a 50-year member of AACR. When I wrote today's date above, I realized it would have been my wife's 86th birthday, but she died in 2004. I miss Betty very much. "All things come to you if you wait long enough," but it must be added, "and if you live long enough!"

The first "honor" I received for "waiting" was to be a season-ticket holder for the Green Bay Packers. Not a very big deal for Philadelphia folks but it gets immediate attention here, followed by a "Wow! How long did you have to wait?" Answer: 23 years!

We had a few years of respite to travel and see how cancer is "managed" in China and Russia before our own health problems caught up with us. I was able to complete 35 years of service in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps before retirement in 1988.

I retired from active practice at the end of 1991. That didn't end my involvement in medicine. Our daughter had a heart transplant in 1992 and I was the "go to" family decision maker. She thrives to this day. Then, it was my grandson (hyperactive) whose parents have alcohol and drug problems, leaving grandpa as the decision maker.

I live now in a nursing home because I am unable to care for my needs. I had a mid-thigh amputation of my left leg about a year ago and use a power chair to get about.

The "Stand Up to Cancer" is a good concept for raising money but not very realistic for addressing what is really a whole host of disorders that need the multi-faceted approaches being researched by my younger colleagues in the AACR.