

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks be to God. And, thank you to **EACH** of you who played such an important part in my diagnosis of Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma, extra nodal, the staging and the treatment process. Words cannot express my gratitude for the talents of you and the drug developers, the support I have received from you all, and my thankfulness for the blessings of faith, family and friends.

The professional people I wish to specifically thank include: Robert Orford, M.D., Arthur Shiff, M. D., M. Edwyn Harrison, M.D., Dave Mulligan, M. D., Toufic Kachaamy, M.D., Samuel Money, M. D., Craig Reeder, M.D., Larry Bergstrom, M.D., Steven Kroutzer, M.D., Ally Young, R.N., David Dilille, R.N., Patti Marshock, R.N., Kevin Morrison and Shelly Zausmer.

In my quest to be known as an individual, several of the docs verbalized to me, “We’ve never had a patient like you before...but don’t lose that attitude.” In recounting that comment to an Amarillo, TX, friend, he said, “You know, La Rita, I’ve always thought that you should have come with a **Warning Label**...it should be tattooed on the back of your neck.”

When I first met my oncologist, Craig Reeder, I was irritated at what I thought was his arrogant, condescending attitude. I came to understand that it was a case of him generally being very formal. Fortunately, we learned to accommodate to each other to form a warm, collaborative relationship. A prime example was his implied encouragement of pursuing the publishing process by his e-mail response to having received a copy of my Protocol, “Wow 😊, Thanks. CR.” My primary Executive Health doctor, Bob Orford, told me that he was going to give a copy of it to any of his patients who were going to have chemotherapy. My lawyer, Ron Nickum, told me that I should publish the January Journey series of e-mails chronologing the whole

process. My lawyer friend, Sandra Nix Lapsley, accomplished the Herculean task of editing the Janaury Journey, not just once, but for four times!

While I was undergoing chemotherapy and immediately afterward, Elio Grieco and Renata Grieco helped me produce, publish and distribute my multi-years' work of the Legacy Genealogy & Cookbook Projects Howlett (Stevens & Beckham)-Mason (Stuart) 2013 La Rita Mason, in hard copy and electronically, to numerous family members and friends. Copies of it have been accepted by the Library of Congress, the Oklahoma Historical Society located in the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City, OK, the Shattuck Public Library in Shattuck, OK, the Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum in Woodward, OK, the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, TX, the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN and the Family History Library, Book Donations Department, for the LDS Church, Salt Lake City, UT.

Finally, my thanks to David Patterson, M.D., who I met along with his wife around a fire pit at the Camelback Inn. His efforts provided me the contact information I needed to try and publish through the Mayo Clinic system.