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Sepsis awareness foundation honors memory of Georgia man

[SAVANNAH, GA] – A new foundation aimed at raising sepsis awareness has launched in memory of a Georgia man who died from sepsis in May 2009.

Ten years after the death of James D. Moore, his widow, Karen, has launched the James D. Moore Memorial Foundation for Sepsis Awareness, Prevention and Advocacy (JDMM Foundation) to help raise awareness of sepsis in order to improve outcomes for survivors, advocate for political change, educate doctors and healthcare professionals, and provide support for those affected by sepsis.

James D. Moore was rushed to the hospital in May 2009 and within hours began to experience organ failure. Nineteen hours after being admitted, James died of septic shock. In 2016, Karen became septic herself. After her recovery, she began listening to the stories of other sepsis survivors and was inspired to start a foundation to honor her late husband and his legacy, aimed at making sure no one else ever had to experience the devasting effects of sepsis to the lack of awareness.

Sepsis is the body's overwhelming and life-threatening response to infection that can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and death. Normally, the body's immune system works to fight bacteria, viruses and fungi in order to prevent infection. When sepsis occurs, the immune system begins to fight itself. Sepsis kills between 150,000 and 300,000 people in the United States every year. Only one-third of Americans have heard of sepsis.

Karen Moore's vision for the JDMM Foundation is to provide a support system for those affected by sepsis and to provide a platform for their voices to be heard. She hopes to end preventable death from sepsis, improve survival outcomes for survivors, help patients adjust to life after sepsis, and minimize the effect of post-sepsis syndrome. From her experience, Karen has developed an overwhelming desire to use her front-line experience and voice to help battle sepsis.

The JDMM Foundation's mission is to support awareness, research, early diagnosis and reduced mortality rates. The Foundation believes in empowering those affected by sepsis with the best knowledge, resources and support. In order to further raise awareness, the JDMM Foundation will be partnering with other sepsis survivors, families of sepsis victims and lawmakers to help bring about mandatory sepsis protocols in hospitals, nursing homes and critical care facilities.

"Although James and countless others lost their voices, I still have mine," Karen Moore said. "I will use it to bring awareness to this dreadful and awful illness. Too many lives are being cut short because of sepsis."

For more information on the foundation, visit: www.jamesdmoorememorialfoundation.org

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