

Benefit dinner and auction planned for Enterline Oct. 2

Written by Darci Tomky

Life is now getting back to normal for cancer survivor Phil Enterline and his wife Misty after Phil's short fight with testicular cancer. Even though Phil is feeling much better, he and Misty still deal with the financial strain caused by the cancer treatments.

In an effort to defray some of the medical expenses for the Enterlines, Holyoke Volunteer Fire Department, Holyoke EMS and BeCause are sponsoring a benefit dinner and auction Saturday, Oct. 2. The dinner will begin at 6 p.m. at Holyoke Vets Club followed by the auction at 7:30 p.m.

Phil first started experiencing pain in March 2010. After seeing the doctor and urologist in early April, a surgery date was set for April 8 because of suspected testicular cancer. The Enterlines then learned the testicle needed to be removed and that it was, in fact, cancerous.

Chemo treatments began in May and finished in June. Phil received two sessions of the treatments, each for five days straight for six to eight hours a day.

The Enterlines said it was such a blessing to have the treatments done here at the hospital in Holyoke.

Each person reacts to the chemo differently, said Misty. For Phil, he was often tired and weak, and he experienced blurred vision.

"Some days I just didn't want to go to work," said Phil. He had already taken a month off work at Seaboard Foods after his surgery, so he continued to work through the chemo treatments, missing only a few days for that.

"It's been strenuous," said Misty. The hardest part for her is dealing with Phil being grumpy and the stress of their financial situation.

They noted the Church of Christ has been very helpful as well as Phil's brothers from Holyoke Volunteer Fire Department and Holyoke EMS. Phil has served with HVFD for four years and EMS for one year—two jobs he had to give up for about three months during his recovery from the cancer.

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He also had to stay away from all those fun summer activities like riding his horses, driving his motorcycle and going to the lake. "But it was for my own good," said Phil who is glad that he is feeling better now. He is excited for an elk hunting trip planned next month.

A check-up on Sept. 3 showed everything was just as it should be. Phil noted cancer runs in his family as his grandfather got prostate cancer after testicular cancer, so he will need to watch for that and stay on top of things. But other than experiencing some occasional pain, Phil is pleased that life is back to normal.