

Anne Cleveland needs your help!

Dear Friends of Anne Cleveland,

We are reaching out to you today regarding our friend and highly accomplished open water swimmer, Anne Cleveland, who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital in San Diego, and she is very upbeat and determined to beat this life-threatening disease. While undergoing treatment, Anne is unable to work and generate an income to pay her monthly bills. Fortunately, she has good health insurance, but her overall financial status is in need of support.

About Anne

Anne is a native of La Jolla, California and swam competitively in her early teens. After meeting channel swimming legend, Florence Chadwick, at a young age, Anne dreamt of swimming the English Channel. It was not, however, until Anne was in her forties that she realized this dream, at which point she successfully swam the Maui Channel, Catalina Channel and the English Channel, both one way and two ways. At the time of her double English Channel Crossing, she was the 2nd American and oldest person to complete this feat. In addition to marathon swims, Anne competed in multiple open water competitive events, frequently winning both her age group and finishing first woman overall.

For her channel swimming accomplishments, Anne was honored by both the athletic and swimming community. For her 2004 two way English Channel crossing, she received the San Diego Hall of Champions Star of the Month Award and was honored by the Foundation for Women. In March of 2005 she attended the Channel Swimming and Piloting Federation Annual Awards Dinner in Dover, England, where she was awarded the prestigious Gertrude Ederle Award for the Most Meritorious Swim by a Woman in 2004. This award is sponsored by the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame. In 2011, she was inducted into the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame in recognition of her swimming achievements as well as coaching, mentoring and supporting other open water swimmers.

Locally, Anne is a former President of the La Jolla Town Council and La Jolla Cove Swim Club, and has supported several Catalina Channel swims as an official observer and mentor.

Anne became certified to teach hatha yoga in 2001, and has since designed yoga workshops and programs specifically to address swimmers' physical conditioning and injury recovery needs.

How you can help Anne:

It is difficult for Anne to reach out to others for financial assistance, and she asks her friends not to share her medical condition on social or other news media, and to keep her situation as low key and private as possible. We are appealing directly to you as a friend of Anne's who might be able to assist her during this time of need. In the world of fundraising, the amount she needs to help pay her bills for the next few months is modest. We would like to raise more than what she is asking for, and are targeting \$20,000 or more. La Jolla Cove Swim Club has kicked off the fundraising effort with a \$1000 donation. Small and larger donations are very much appreciated. Anne is also in need of legal assistance, so pro bono or discounted legal services would also be very helpful.

If would like to help Anne with her recovery, you may donate funds one of two ways:

- 1. Write a check made out to Anne Cleveland, and mail it to: Anne Cleveland, c/o La Jolla Cove Swim Club, P.O. Box 427, La Jolla, CA 92038.
- 2. Donate online at the fundraising site set up on Anne's behalf by the La Jolla Cove Swim Club: https://www.youcaring.com/annecleveland-731924

If you would like to contact Anne personally, she appreciates texts or emails, but due to the physical rigors of her treatment, she prefers not to have visitors at this time. Before contacting her by phone, please text her first to see if she is available for a phone call.

On behalf of Anne Cleveland and the board of the La JollaCove Swim Club, we appreciate your consideration and support to help Anne on her road to recovery. We all hope to see her back in the ocean for a nice, long swim in the very near future!

