Veronica Cervantes 42, had felt pain under her arm for quite sometime. Finally, it became severe enough to call her doctor. In March 2014, she was diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer. Her treatment included chemotherapy and a double mastectomy with DIEP Flap reconstruction. She currently is undergoing radiation as the final stage of her treatment.

“It’s important to just take it one day at a time and stay positive about it,” she said. She credits her family, her faith, and Methodist Hospital breast patient navigator Stacey Schuler RN, with getting her through her cancer journey. “I know that God is having me go through this for a reason,” she said.

Her breast patient navigator keeps in touch with texts and provides information on where to find resources, such as the proper bra, and nutrition information.

“My family has been a blessing,” she continued. Her mother moved back in with Veronica’s family to help since Veronica cannot drive because of another medical issue. Her three sons, ages 11, 12 and 14, help too by bringing her medicine, making sure she is comfortable with pillows and blankets and even giving her massages. “They were a little scared at first, but they help quite a bit,” she explained.