

Lupus Society of Illinois

LUPUS WARRIOR WEDNESDAY

August 24, 2022

I am a proud lupus fighter and advocate. My journey with lupus started off very rough with being diagnosed at the age of 15 and experiencing a life threatening 5 month hospital stay that almost took my life. From being on dialysis, life support, battling many infections and having to learn how to walk, talk, eat, bathe myself and understand my body again at such a young age, it was all very challenging, but I've learned to use my pain and story as a way to encourage others and bring awareness to the good and bad with lupus.

I was told I wouldn't survive but I DID and recently made it to my 33rd Birthday, I was told I wouldn't graduate high school but I did and went all the way to receiving my Masters Degree. I was told I wouldn't have kids but I DID and have a 6 year old healthy and amazing miracle baby boy.

All of this to say that life with lupus can be rough but it's up to you to decide how you choose to live your life and get through the rough times. For me, there has ALWAYS been a LIGHT at the end of the tunnel and I'm so grateful to GOD, my faith, my family and my friends for encouraging me to stay strong so that I could see the LIGHT.



Gladys James