

Kenny, age 36

I was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis eleven years ago. It was not until I was forced to leave a job, resign as a volunteer firefighter, and leave school that I realized the severity of this disease. Two years ago, at age 34, I was forced to have my entire large intestine removed after discovering pre-cancerous cells during a routine colonoscopy. Shortly after, I had my second surgery and was able to then begin the recovery process. Almost one year after my second surgery and only weeks after my 35th birthday, I celebrated my health by completing the Las Vegas Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon with CCFA Team Challenge and then 6 months later, the Boston 13.1 Now, on the 2nd anniversary of my surgery, I am back for #3, no colon, but still rollin'!

"I run to give hope to those who suffer from inflammatory bowel disease because I know the pain of living with ulcerative colitis. I know the depression, panic and sadness that come with these diseases. I hope in some way to inspire others to not give up. In my case I was faced with cancer after 11 years of battling colitis, and in the end had to have major surgery to save my life. I thought this was the end, but to my surprise it was a new beginning. On December 6th along with my fiance and best friend, I had the honor of crossing the finish line with thousands of people all with the same goal, to put an end to Crohn's and colitis, once and for all!" Now, it's your turn!