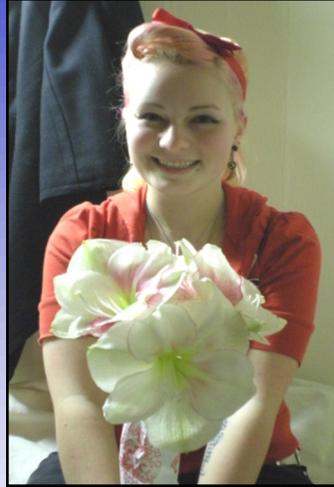
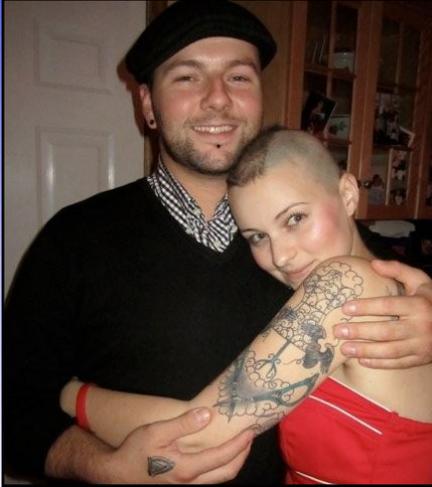


# Why We Walk



## In Memory, Kerry Kelemen

Kerry Kelemen of Thiells, NY was a graduate of Northeastern University with a degree in Deaf Studies, and worked with Deaf-Blind individuals. But, when she was 24 years old, Kerry was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). In April 2010, she had an infected wisdom tooth removed, and the infection did not respond to antibiotics. She was sent to a clinic for a stronger dose. While at the clinic, a nurse noticed a rash and bruising on Kerry's arm. Trying to solve the puzzle, the dentist sent Kerry for blood work. Unfortunately, the blood work results proved that Kerry had AML, the day before her 25th birthday.

Kerry immediately began aggressive chemotherapy and received care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She was prepped for a bone marrow transplant in which Kerry's brother, Ken, was a perfect match, and Kerry had the transplant in October 2010. Regrettably, the bone marrow transplant failed. Kerry also took part in experimental studies at Sloan Kettering, but her leukemia was unresponsive. Kerry passed away peacefully in her sleep on July 10, 2011. Kerry is survived by her husband, Damian Curran, her parents Sabina and Dennis, her two sisters Tonia and Flo, and her two brothers, Ken and Dan.

Days after her diagnosis, Kerry learned that her blood type was "B+". Kerry took it as a sign, and it became her personal motto as the "Be Positive" message spread rapidly online. Her Facebook page has inspired thousands of friends from all around the world: Dropkick Cancer For Kerry Kelemen. In addition, a popular punk band, the Dropkick Murphys, heard about Kerry's story and played for her while in the hospital. Ironically enough, Kerry and her husband Damian met at one of their concerts, and that is where the name Dropkick Cancer For Kerry Kelemen originated! She enjoyed everyday activities such as going to concerts, watching hockey, sewing, going on adventures with friends, driving her jeep, and hiking. Kerry's legacy will live on forever and she continues to be an inspiration to those battling leukemia.

To learn more about Light The Night, please visit [www.lightthenight.org/wch](http://www.lightthenight.org/wch) or call (914) 821-8362.

To learn more about Kerry, please visit her Facebook fan page:  
"Dropkick Cancer for Kerry Kelemen"

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