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LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S RON JOHNSON NAMED AS SUSAN G. KOMEN'S CO-SURVIVOR OF THE YEAR

Los Angeles, CA... Susan G. Komen named Pasadena, CA resident Ron Johnson "Co-Survivor of the Year" at its annual Komen Leadership Conference in Fort Worth, TX. The national award honors those who support friends or loved ones on their journey with the disease, demonstrating tact, commitment, compassion, creativity, patience, initiative, dependability, and endurance.

"Shortly after Ron and his wife Jerri married in 2002, Jerri was diagnosed with Stage 4 inflammatory breast cancer. Jerri and Ron didn't know anything about breast cancer and had no idea what they were in for. Jerri was a patient with a less than 5 percent chance of surviving a year past diagnosis. Being newly married, Ron and Jerri had a lot to live for. They embarked on a journey with a group of dedicated healthcare providers, friends and family to beat breast cancer," explained Mark Pilon, Executive Director of Susan G. Komen Los Angeles County. "Ron truly epitomizes why the Co-Survivor award exists. All of us at Komen Los Angeles County are thrilled that he received it," he added.

Ron's response to his wife's diagnosis was immediate, meaningful and lasting. He quickly joined her fight against breast cancer: attending doctor's appointments, sitting in chemotherapy labs, taking a leave of absence from work and rearranging furniture to fit Jerri's needs.

Twenty-six months later, Jerri and Ron walked off the battlefield. Jerri was cancer free and now it was the Johnson's turn to give back. Six months prior to Jerri's diagnosis, Susan G. Komen funded research that significantly aided in her treatment. Desiring to give back to Komen, Ron and Jerri have raised more than \$200,000 in the past 13 years for the organization.

The Johnsons are actively involved with the Komen Affiliate in Los Angeles County. Ron has been the Registration Race Chair for the past four years and will be the overall Race Chair for the 2017 Race. Proudly sporting his pink tutu and Komen shirts, he has been alongside his wife every step of the way. Ron is not only a supporting husband, but also an outstanding co-survivor. Jerri has served on the Los Angeles County Board for four years and just stepped down as board President after two years in that position.

About Susan G. Komen

Susan G. Komen is the world's largest breast cancer organization, funding more breast cancer research than any other nonprofit while providing real-time help to those facing the disease. Since its founding in 1982, Komen has funded more than \$889 million in research and provided \$1.95 billion in funding to screening, education, treatment and psychosocial support programs serving millions of people in more than 30 countries worldwide. Komen was founded by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy's life. Visit komen.org or call 1-877 GO KOMEN. Connect with us on social at www.komen.org/social.

About Susan G. Komen Los Angeles County

Susan G. Komen Los Angeles County is the only organization in Los Angeles County that is exclusively dedicated to combating breast cancer on every front. They have one clear mission: to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering others, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to find the cures. Komen studies the unique needs of Los Angeles County every four years to formulate their community profile, which allows them to target grant funding to address the most significant breast cancer issues facing local communities. <http://komenlacounty.org>

