

**My name is Sandy Cassanelli. I am 43 years old & live in Glastonbury, CT.**

**At the age of 35 I got my first mammogram. On my mammogram report that was mailed to me was advised that I had dense breast tissue but being so young it was never explained to me what this meant & it was dismissed by the radiologist because I was so young.**

**Fast forward 2 years later at the age of 37 I by self-exam discovered a lump in my breast. Much to my surprise I was diagnosed with stage III breast cancer. Hard to think that stage III happens overnight.**

**If only I had been told what dense breast tissue was & if only the radiologist had explained to me that I should get an ultrasound then maybe my cancer would never have developed to stage III.**

**My nightmare did not end there. Fast forward two years at the age of 39 I was told my breast cancer had to spread to my liver & I was now stage IV Metastatic Breast Cancer! NO CURE!!!**

**If only I had that ultrasound at 35 I would probably not be where I am today. The reason I am not able to attend this hearing today is because I am at the funeral services of my fellow dense breast cancer sister who was robbed of her life at age 40.**

**WE NEED TO DO BETTER! Women are dying younger & younger!**