



The Mother Road
Ride

presented by



Emily | my MS story

I am the care partner for my wife, Emily. She received the diagnosis of MS about 20 years ago, just before we got married. This means that we've partnered up to fight MS for nearly two decades. She certainly had symptoms prior to that, but she hid them well and there were almost no treatment options at the time. I recall her ophthalmologist saying that he suspected MS, but if he put it in her medical chart she might be dropped from her insurance. The past 20 years have been VERY productive for MS research and treatment development.

Now, there are more than 11 FDA approved disease modifying drugs for MS. Emily has been on three medications designed for MS. She changed her primary medication a decade ago because we started having relapses again. Something changed, but we had the option to try another medication that turned out to work well. Emily also started a second MS drug to help with ambulation. It's just a tremendous relief to have drugs that push back on this disease's symptoms.

On a daily basis, it's very personal. We manage to get through each day of the life that God gave us in pretty good shape. So we try to give back whenever and wherever we can do so. We participate in lots of National MS Society fundraising events. The money goes to services, research and education that benefit more individuals than you could imagine. There are 2.3 million people worldwide waiting on a cure. We want to make a difference in reducing that number. I am a care partner; not a care giver or care taker. Emily pulls her weight, makes my life wonderful and can count lots of friends around the world. There are many days that she doesn't feel good enough or strong enough to connect with all of them, but a few days later we'll be on the tandem bicycle for some exercise or fundraising...in spite of the MS.



bike to
create a world
free of MS