Angeline – Communication Disorders

VFTH

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A young Bowling Green woman who overcame a cancer diagnosis and a stroke is moving on with her life and WKU’s Communication Disorders Clinic is a big reason why.

Amy Bingham has her story in this week’s View from the Hill.

One minute she was a normal college student, the next she was recovering from a stroke. And this was just days after being diagnosed with leukemia. Now Angeline Ross is sharing her story even as she remains on the road to recovery.

“I really never thought of anything like this happening to me.”

Angeline Ross grew up in Franklin Tennessee and was once crowned Rodeo Queen.

She was a normal college student attending Tennessee Tech University.

“I was a junior and on the equestrian team and in a sorority.”

In the fall of 2010 everything changed for Angeline. She was diagnosed with leukemia and just three days later suffered a stroke.

“I couldn’t swallow, couldn’t talk. It took me three months to walk on my own.”

While learning to regain the most basic skills, she was also fighting cancer.

“I was given arsenic because I couldn’t take the chemo pills due to the stroke.”

Friends and family rallied around Angeline as she underwent intense therapy and was able to go back to school in just nine months.

“You have to persevere. I really can’t tell anybody why but I knew I was going to live.”

Now cancer free and living in Bowling Green, Angeline is still working on her speech at the Communication Disorders Clinic located in the Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex.

“I couldn’t be more happy with my progress, my results they helped me with.”

She’s also sharing her emotional journey with students who will soon be dealing with patients just like her.

“I had no idea the impact it was going to have on me and I was a crying mess. Now I can tell the story and not be a crying mess.”

In spite of her health set back, Angeline was able to graduate on time from Tennessee Tech with a degree in Marketing. She is working here in Bowling Green and has a goal of someday becoming a veterinary pharmaceutical sales rep working on the west coast.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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