



Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes documentary, narrated by Dee Wallace is the Story of Extraordinary Women & Men who took their recovery from breast cancer a step beyond medical diagnosis, by creating new paths of wholeness through body, mind, and spirit, now offering those as gifts to others.

Courageous Warriors is a raw and real look at breast cancer, as told by survivors, spouses, caregivers, and medical professionals. It's an unfiltered look at the disease; from diagnosis, to treatment, to rising from the ashes to find beauty in life again.

Our warriors offer us A Beautiful Arc of Pain to Healing while being entrenched in the battlefields of breast cancer only to break down walls with a universal message of hope and healing for all, regardless of your enemy.

Watch the movie trailer: <https://vimeo.com/560581995>

Watch the music video: <https://youtu.be/GZvch7FwGPs>

<https://courageouswarriorsbeautyfromtheashes.com/>

**For Distribution contact:**

Darla Rae - Producer/Director

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**For Interviews contact:**

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# Inspiration Behind The Story

Thank you for taking the opportunity to visit our website and to learn about our feature documentary, *Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes*.

Our film is a gift from breast cancer survivors and their caregivers to others who may have or will walk through the unknown battlefields which they have no idea what is coming.

Their stories are inspiring, poignant, and brutally honest, yet it is full of encouragement. They did not have to do anything, except survive.

While during the battlefield they had the wherewithal to rise out of fiery ashes to create gifts which they now graciously share with others. Their outreach impacts hundreds of women and men and the intent of our film is to bring their gifts to the world.

They are not celebrities, but they are true heroes, and they need help in bringing their gifts to others. Some people have said "it's just breast cancer, get over it." This is a personal story to me as well. I was my mother's caregiver and then later I became my best friends' caregiver too.

This has been a three year journey in creating this passion project to help give back.

Our film is not just a cancer story but rather a map identifying how to navigate the unforeseen journey one might find themselves facing and still live a life of fullness.

Hollywood icon Dee Wallace shared that the reason she opted to lend her voice to our film as the narrator was because she too had a personal connection through her Mom's life work in helping those with cancer.

One of the most interesting things about our film is that it speaks to everyone in some manner.

Everyone either knows someone who has been touched by a devastating diagnosis or experienced it directly. Even women who struggle to break free from an abusive relationship or perhaps are divorced and find themselves suddenly faced with a surmountable battle in which they were unprepared for, will be inspired.

*Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes* will change lives and empower all who see it.

Thank you kindly,  
Darla Rae  
Producer, Director, CEO  
Film It Productions



Director, Darla Rae & Narrator, Dee Wallace  
(known for *E.T.*, *Cujo*, *The Howling*)

# Director Statement

Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes is my first feature documentary which evolved from working on a short film about women who fit other women for mastectomy bras.

While meeting these incredible women and men it led us on an extraordinary journey interviewing over 100 women and men who have battled or are battling breast cancer.



The film has been a labor of love for 3 yrs. "Courageous Warriors" like its title song "Girls Like Me" is an anthem and blueprint to encourage and help others to navigate this surmountable battle which leaves so many casualties behind in its wake of devastation.

But there is Hope and we explore that hope that others have created to share and to help restore their sister warriors to a wholeness that may never otherwise exist. As women we are stronger together.

It was clear from the beginning that I wanted to show traditional roles but also ones that break barriers. Proceeds from Downloads from Courageous Warriors and the song Girls Like Me go to directly to help women fighting the ugly beast of breast cancer. Our intent is to continue beyond with a docu series to bring hope and healing to the masses world wide. Its a tribute to my Mother who lost her battle at the age of 60 to breast cancer.

I began this film journey at the age of 60. She was a Courageous, Valiant, Warrior. She was my hero. The film is not only dedicated to my Mom but also my best friend Susan. Essentially it is their beauty from the ashes.

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# Meet the Warriors



Diane Simard - Founder of C.O.P.E & Author  
5 Yr survivor



Karen Richards - Program Director P Ink  
19 Yr survivor



Missy Feher-Peiker  
Currently Battling



Dr. Lynne Yancy  
15 Yr Survivor



Rosalba Castillo  
Hair Dresser - 8 Yr survivor



Delores "Dee" Vellinga  
Retired Paralegal. 41 Yr survivor



Jess Wilkerson -  
RN Nurse Navigator  
3 Yr survivor



Suzanne Hagmeier -  
Director of Hope Held By a Horse  
9 Yr survivor



Meagan Doe - Advocate  
Currently Battling



Antoinette Paniagua  
RN Nurse Navigator  
20 Yr survivor



Jennifer Roush - Advocate  
6 Yr survivor



Diane Chaffee -  
Founder of Hope Held By a Horse  
12 Yr survivor

# Meet the Warriors & Caregivers



Murphy Houston - Radio Personality -  
Survivor & Caregiver



Gentle Jen - Tattoo Artist



Darla Rae - Filmmaker & Caregiver



Erik "Horsey" Wilkerson - Caregiver  
Spouse diagnosed 3 Yrs ago



Shane Berndt - Caregiver  
Spouse diagnosed 6 Yrs ago



Fred La Roche - Caregiver  
Spouse diagnosed 12 Yrs ago



Louie Feher-Peiker  
Caregiver - Spouse diagnosed July 2020

# Courageous Warriors One Sheet



**Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes** documentary, narrated by Dee Wallace is the Story of Extraordinary Women & Men who took their recovery from breast cancer a step beyond medical diagnosis, by creating new paths of wholeness through body, mind, and spirit, now offering those as gifts to others.

**Courageous Warriors** is a raw and real look at breast cancer, as told by survivors, spouses, caregivers, and medical professionals.

**It's an unfiltered look** at the disease; from diagnosis, to treatment, to rising from the ashes to find beauty in life again.

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**What people are saying about ...**  
**Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes**

**Excellent & thought provoking from many angles.**  
**Retired Nurse Practitioner- Kas Tamburino**

**Validation! That is why this film is so important. It provides validation, not just to the cancer patients and their caregivers, but to anyone who has gone through a medical experience and felt alone.** -Writer/Producer-Lori Allred

**After 15yrs, it brought up new things to heal that I hadn't faced before. Or at least I hadn't faced fully. Thank you!**  
**ER Doctor Lynne Yancy- survivor**

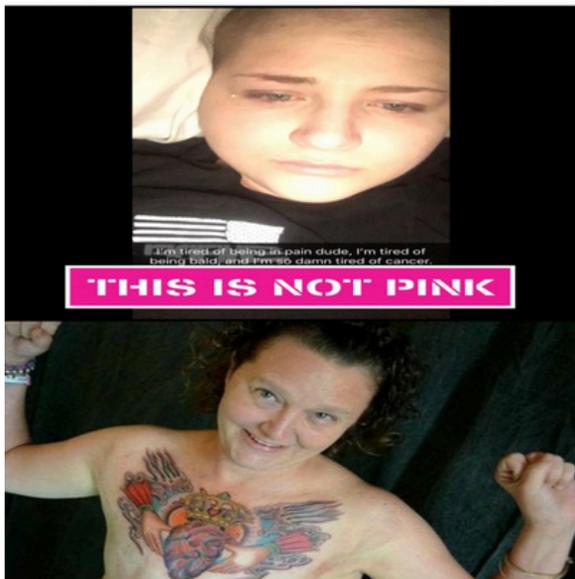
**Thank you for opening my eyes and strengthening my conviction and growth of this special chance to live life to the fullest by always being in service and in love.**  
**Louie Feher Peiker-Caregiver**

**Powerful\* Raw\* Real\* Honest\* Humble\* Beautiful\***  
**Jess Wilkerson-Oncology Nurse Navigator**

**There are tender and painful stories that turned inspiring and uplifting, keeping me in tears for very different reasons. Each one Unique and Beautiful.**  
**Radio Personality Jennifer Wilde**

**Raw, Real, Relevant. An unflinching, can't look away, powerful example of Independent Filmmaking at it's finest.**  
**Kirk Montgomery - WZZM-TV**

**Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes will motivate, uplift, inspire, encourage, and educate. It will change how you view obstacles in your life.**



**Trailer:**  
<https://vimeo.com/553603084/844d472e31>

**720-620-0536 [filmitproductions7@gmail.com](mailto:filmitproductions7@gmail.com)**  
**Producer, Director Darla Rae**  
<https://vimeo.com/563518738>

## **Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes, tugging hearts and winning support from critics on Rotten Tomatoes**

For Immediate Release: Los Angeles, California

Contact: Jennifer Seeley - Publicist 303-902-6096 - [jseeleyconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:jseeleyconsulting@gmail.com)

Darla Rae 720-620-0536 or email [filmitproductions7@gmail.com](mailto:filmitproductions7@gmail.com)

**Los Angeles**- Darla Rae's award-winning feature documentary ***Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes***, is doing more than tugging audience hearts, it has found its way to film critics and a profile on Rotten Tomatoes.

Rae is an award-winning filmmaker and California native who was born in Los Angeles and graduated from Azusa High School in the San Gabriel Valley.

What an amazing milestone for our film, and our Warriors. Our team has been making films to raise awareness, motivate, encourage, empower, educate, and inspire for over two decades. It's a first to have an actual Rotten Tomatoes profile with critic reviews, said Rae.

***Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes*** documentary, narrated by **Dee Wallace** is the Story of Extraordinary Women & Men who took their recovery from breast cancer a step beyond medical diagnosis, by creating new paths of wholeness through body, mind, and spirit, now offering those as gifts to others.

What makes this film work is the unflinching rawness, that realness. **Lapacazo Sandoval New York Amsterdam News**

Overall, it's an easy watch for a difficult subject. This is because a sensitive filmmaker has managed to unravel different aspects of the realities of breast cancer and everything associated with it. **Ronak Kotecha [ronakkotecha.wordpress.com](http://ronakkotecha.wordpress.com)**

It succeeds in establishing a vulnerable, emotional connection between viewer and subject, humanizing the survivors and their loved ones when the disease dehumanizes them. **Laura Potier Outake Mag**

The movie, narrated by Dee Wallace, who also serves as an executive producer, lives up to its title. **ReelBob Film Yap**

**Courageous Warriors** is a raw and real look at breast cancer, as told by survivors, spouses, caregivers, and medical professionals. It's an **unfiltered look** at the disease; from diagnosis, to treatment, to rising from the ashes to find beauty in life again.

Darla said "Its amazing to me that the film is connecting with men and women in the most incredible ways. Now our job is to get it released on a greater scale for all to see and to share in this beautiful journey with our warriors, survivors and caregivers. I promise you will be changed, for the better."

Watch the Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/563518738>

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## **Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes, The movie that tells what everyone wanted to know, but no one had been able to say.**

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**Los Angeles-** Darla Rae's award-winning feature documentary *Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes*, is making its World Premiere live in person. It will be held at the 12th annual Awareness International Film Festival Sunday October 24th at 2:15pm, at Regal Cinema Live LA.

**Tickets are available at:**

**<https://www.awarenessfestival.org/event/courageous-warriorsbeauty-from-theashes/>**

Rae is an award-winning filmmaker and California native who was born in Los Angeles and graduated from Azusa High School. "It's an honor to premiere our film here at such an amazing film festival. The Awareness film festival is special. It is rare to find a festival that is more than just entertainment. It champions passion, and education while truly impacting lives through film," said Rae.

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Rae and Wallace both made the film as a tribute to their mothers. Wallace's mother helped people in Kansas while Rae's family held bake sales and raffles, and hosted BBQ events to benefit the City of Hope here in Southern California.

Darla said "I made this film initially as a tribute to my mother and friend who lost their battle with breast cancer. But during the 3-year process I realized at the core it's about finding love. The film is by survivors, and caregivers for everyone. Essentially you could take out breast cancer and plug in any diagnosis and find healing."

There will be a Q&A following the screening. Group ticket sales are available.

Watch the Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/563518738>

## **Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes documentary Wins Again, and Santa comes early. Filmmaker inks a distribution deal with e360tv.com for a live streaming event**

For Immediate Release: Denver, Colorado

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Darla Rae 720-620-0536 or email [filmitproductions7@gmail.com](mailto:filmitproductions7@gmail.com)

**Denver-** Darla Rae's award-winning feature documentary *Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes*, added two more awards at the 12th Annual Awareness Intl Film Festival at LA Live including Audience and Awareness Merit awards for Best Documentary feature. **As a result, Santa came a bit early as they inked a streaming deal with e360tv.com.** e360tv is an on-demand and live streaming network that is available on Apple TV, Amazon Fire, Roku, Android TV, IOS, Android mobile and web and is geared towards audiences that live in the mainstream, but whose hearts and minds are on the fringe.

Director Darla Rae said "Were grateful to be working with e360tv.com, Initially our film will be streamed one night only as a fundraiser for breast cancer organizations featured in the film *Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes*, as well as other organizations here in Colorado and those across the country whose missions align with the message of our film.

"e360tv has been a leader in streaming immersive interactive live events. It's a blessing to have a company like e360 to help raise awareness. The impact of our film and this event with e360 is the first step to further distribution and a follow up Docu-series. We hope people who have ever been touched by breast cancer or any cancer will buy a ticket and help us to help others." said Rae.

Joshua Berglan VP of Immersive Media for e360tv said, I am honored to announce the signing of our first film, the multi award winning *Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes* by Director Darla Rae. This will not be a normal film viewing experience, as this will be the first global film release for e360tv.com using immersive media technology, which brings viewers into the film (think digital *Mystery Science Theater*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show*). Not only will there be real time engagement, but there will also be LIVE Q & A with the Director and other people from the film, and many more surprises. This will revolutionize the film industry for independent filmmakers and there is no better way to start that than with this powerful film.

**Save the date, February 24th, 2022! The event cost is \$39. Early Bird Tickets on Sale Now for \$19 link for tickets <https://tinyurl.com/CourageousWarriorsMovie>**

**Event is titled "An Evening of A Different Kind of Love".**

Organizations benefitting in Colorado are: #HopeHeldByAHorse, #Personalink #RayofHope, #SenseofSecurity. National organizations will be announced soon.

*Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes* documentary, narrated by **Dee Wallace** is the Story of Extraordinary Women & Men from Colorado who took their recovery from breast cancer a step beyond medical diagnosis, by creating new paths of wholeness through body, mind, and spirit, now offering those as gifts to others. **Courageous Warriors** is a raw and real look at breast cancer, as told by survivors, spouses, and caregivers. **It's an unfiltered look** at the disease; from diagnosis, to treatment, to rising from the ashes to find beauty in life again.

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## **Colorado made Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes wins Big at "Boobs and Blood" International Film Festival while raising dollars for Save a Breast**

For Immediate Release: Denver, Colorado

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Darla Rae 720-620-0536 or email [filmitproductions7@gmail.com](mailto:filmitproductions7@gmail.com)

Denver- Darla Rae's award-winning feature documentary **Courageous Warriors; Beauty from the Ashes**, garnered four awards in Hollywood this past Saturday Oct.2nd at the 11th annual Boobs and Blood film festival. **The festival raises money for Save a Breast nonprofit organization.**

"It's an honor to be recognized by industry professionals who are also about awareness and giving back to support the fight against Breast Cancer. I was looking for festivals that were a good fit, because people would make statements like "it's just breast cancer, get over it. Or were a bit uncomfortable with the subject matter." I contacted the festival and asked if they would think outside the box, because after all we did have boobs and blood, just not what they were accustomed to. Historically the festival has been associated with the horror, said Rae.

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Rae and Wallace both made the film as a tribute to their mothers. Wallace's mother helped support caregivers and survivors through a nonprofit organization in Kansas while Rae's family held bake sales and raffles, and hosted BBQ events to benefit a nonprofit in California where she grew up.

Darla said "I made this film initially as a tribute to my mother and friend who lost their battle with breast cancer. But during the 3-year process I realized at the core it's about finding love. The festival told us we had won an award, so we were shocked to receive four.

The film won Best Documentary, Best Director, Best Editor, and Humanitarian of the year awards.

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