

Sue Miller’s Evening of Caring proves survival is beautiful

Evening of Caring, the brainchild of revered survivor Sue Miller, a former fashion model, brings glamour, confidence and awareness of breast cancer to the runway.

Models who have survived breast cancer and thrived wore handsome and glamorous in ensembles from Brooks and Macy’s when they strutted to upbeat music on the catwalk to illustrate their courage, inspiration, hope and the beauty of life. Each had a story printed in the program, as did the three honorees who gathered friends and family to support them at the fundraiser held at the Grand Hyatt in downtown Denver.

Dressed to the nines were 21 models: Brenda Hardwick, Laura Reck-Merkel, Patricia Shands, Marilyn Moses, Kathryn Harris, Barb Campbell Finnin, Rebecca Howard, Adela Samper-Imaz, Tracey Drayton, Richard Fiorella, Lindsay Fryer, Ann Hession, Jean Bitzer, Marcella Starr Barnett, Leah Rodie, Mari Lynn Glidden, Evi Makovsky, Micki Scherling, Terry Rubin, Carol Holmes Fabian and Arlene Mohler Johnson.

Johnson received the Sue Miller Survivor Award because her full-time business, spanning decades, is caring and giving gener-

ously to the community and countless acts of kindness. Her business card even reads: “Arlene Johnson, OWC.” The OWC stands for One Who Cares.

In her acceptance remarks, Johnson explained why she has such passion.

“Of those who have been given much, much is expected,” she said.

In addition to tables of adoring friends and local family members, a grandson, granddaughter and her fiancé from Ohio came to applaud the popular role model for her leadership and philanthropy.

Two more outstanding women were awarded Lifetime of Caring honors and have fascinating backgrounds. Barbara Schwartzberg earned a master’s in pharmaceutical chemistry from Purdue University and spent three years in the lab at Eli Lilly Company developing such notable antibiotics as Keflex and Ceclor.

In her third year of medical school, she fell in love with surgery and never looked back. She

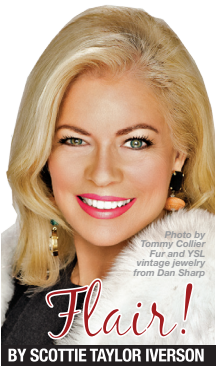
has gained national recognition for her innovative techniques in breast cancer diagnosis and care and has spearheaded several international trials.

Dr. Schwartzberg, the first female medical staff president at Rose Medical Center, serves on several boards, including the national Committee on Cancer and is a medical-device consultant for the FDA.

Antoinette Paniagua was only 41 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. After a year of treatment, she left corporate America and made a life-changing decision to enter nursing school, knowing intuitively that she would work with other breast cancer patients.

As an advocate and participant, she has made a tremendous impact at various levels. Among her many contributions, she has been active with Komen Colorado and was named one of the Stars in Pink. With state Rep. Dianne Primavera, she helped enact legislation requiring insurance companies to cover oral chemotherapy.

Along with other recognition, in 2013 she received the Bronco Country Hero Award and is a founding member of the Colorado Cancer Coalition.



Photos by Scottie Taylor Iverson



Planning Committee member Suzanne Hagmaier, Jason Thomas of sponsor J & J Roofing, Essie Perlmutter and her daughters Vicki Dansky and Lisa Cook.



Leslie Heins, representing her mom Sue Miller, founder of Evening of Caring; new Executive Director Joanne Madrid, Lifetime of Caring awardees Dr. Barbara Schwartzberg and Antoinette Paniagua.



Representing the Levine Family Foundation: Marc, Tana Levine, Steve and Diane Levine.



Dressed by Macy’s, survivor models Rich Fiorella and Tracey Drayton



Fashion designer Brooks, 2014 Survivor Awardee, flanked by models Carol Holmes Fabian and Arlene Mohler Johnson, who are wearing her creations .



Sue Miller Survivor Award Honoree Arlene Mohler Johnson, second from left, and her supportive family: Mark Johnson, Stan and Katie Mohler, Seth and Annie Mohler, Jim Johnson and his daughter Morgan Mickle from Ohio, Nicole Mohler, her fiancé Michael Gingerich and her brother Regan Mohler.