

## **MAUREEN HAY**

Like many women in Cancer Fighters of Houston, Maureen Hay has fought cancer on a personal level. As a breast cancer survivor, she “just knew the work would be very rewarding.”

A member of Cancer Fighters for the past seven years, she also has served on its board for the past five years, and like every person on the board she has done volunteer work. “When you work on the board with other women, you get closer to each of them,” she says.

Maureen is a retired case worker for the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County, now known as the Harris Center, having worked at several clinics for 20 years. During that time she had clients “who were fearful that they would be diagnosed with cancer because they had felt something unusual on their body.”

She also fought her own personal battle against cancer while at MHMRA.

“During my treatment due to breast cancer I continued to work at MHMRA,” Maureen says. “I wanted to keep my cancer treatment private.” She enhanced her treatment by looking online “to locate a good diet. I stayed on that diet during treatment. I felt it was working to make me feel better.” She is the only member of her family to have had cancer.

Married for seven years, Maureen has one child and two grandchildren, twin boys. She has lived in Houston all her life and also has worked for FEMA and Children’s Protective Services. She has a bachelor’s degree in behavioral science from the University of Houston-Clear Lake and enjoys reading and working outside with plants.