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THURSDAY September 10, 2020 HI 76° | LO 69° Hazy, RAIN, PALE

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Cuomo finally rings bell for NYC indoor dining Page 8

amNY Metro goes blue for prostate cancer awareness!

19 YEARS OF GRIEF



City prepares to mark 9/11 anniversary amid the COVID-19 pandemic Page 4

A family member of a lost victim of the 9/11 attacks at the 2019 memorial service in Lower Manhattan.

Today's newspaper in recognition of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month sponsored by



FANS for the CURE

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For more than four decades, Ed Randall has been a familiar voice and a mainstay on the airwaves, becoming synonymous with baseball and one of New York's greatest sports-entertainment exports.

Rising to fame in the 1980s with his hit show, *Talking Baseball*, Randall recorded 500 half-hour television shows with what he describes as "the greatest baseball legends you can imagine," ranging from Mickey Mantle to Ted Williams, to Yogi Berra, to Cal Ripken, and even Hollywood star and noted Chicago Cubs fan, Bill Murray.

He's worked on the radio, served as an emergency broadcaster for New York Yankees telecasts, and even filled in for legendary Yankee Stadium PA announcer Bob Sheppard.

"Numbah 23, Don Mattingly. First base. Numbah 23," he reminisced while doing his best Sheppard impression.

No one could possibly fill the shoes of the man nicknamed "The Voice of God," who served as the soundtrack to summer days in the Bronx for so many years, but Randall's rise to success is just as sentimental for New Yorkers rooting for the hometown kid.

"I'm a son of the Bronx. It was where I discovered baseball," Randall said. "I am a product of 12 years of Catholic school education at All Hallows conveniently located three blocks from Yankee Stadium."

Over the decades, the show moved from TV to radio in the volatile

Ed Randall devotes his baseball life to prostate cancer awareness

New York market but at the turn of the new millennium, Randall faced a challenge that was far more harrowing than sports media.

In 1999, a 47-year-old Randall was faced with the unimaginable that so many men have gone through as he was diagnosed with prostate cancer after a routine annual physical that showed elevated levels in prostate-specific antigen (PSA), a protein produced by the prostate gland which helps detect prostate cancer.

"As with most men, there were no symptoms," Randall said. "Besides being stopped in my tracks by the word 'cancer,' I was also struck by how few of my friends or colleagues knew anything at all about the disease. All I knew was that guys in their forties were not supposed to get this disease."

According to the American Cancer Society, prostate cancer will affect 1 in 9 men during their lifetimes and is the second most common type of cancer found in American men. It is generally found in older men, with the average age at diagnosis being approximately 66.

Thankfully for Randall, it was detected early, and he was able to make a full recovery thanks to the care of Dr. Nick Romas, now at New York-Presbyterian at Co-



Ed Randall

PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

lumbia Medical Center.

With his diagnosis and later, his recovery, a vow was made.

"During treatment, I made a promise to myself to use my platform to help make men more aware of this horrible disease and how to make informed decisions about dealing with it," he said.

So, in 2003, Randall founded Fans for the Cure, a non-profit organization that helps men recognize the risks of prostate cancer while broadcasting the importance of early detec-

tion to both extend and save lives. When caught early, the survival rate of prostate cancer is nearly 100%.

In order to do so, he enabled the help of some of the organizations that got him to where he is today — most notably, Minor League Baseball.

Since 2007, Fans for the Cure has visited more than 1,200 ballparks across 39 states and was designated as the official homegrown charity of Minor League Baseball in 2009.

He's also enlisted the

help of some big-time names throughout the years, ranging from former New York Giants linebacker, Harry Carson, to Baseball Hall of Famer Andre Dawson, and 10-time MLB All-Star Steve Garvey, who serves as a chairman of Fans for the Cure.

All three had battles with prostate cancer, and their reach helps spread the good work that Randall's organization is doing.

"We coordinate PSA screenings, sponsor medical seminars, offer physician and hos-

pital referrals, provide educational materials, and, most recently, host bi-weekly men's health support groups," Randall said. "Given that there will be approximately 33,000 deaths nationwide in 2020, we pledge to commit all of our human and financial resources to increase the number of men who will live with the disease rather than die of it."

For those numbers to improve, men must clear the all-too-often hurdle that comes with the anxiety of just going to the doctor. All too often there is unease at the thought of hearing bad news, which is why many won't get checked up.

"If you worried about being scolded by a doctor for no annual physicals in 20 years, then remember to nod vigorously, don't interrupt, and the speech will be over in a minute," Randall advised. "Then you and your doctor can get about the important business of taking control of your health, improving how you feel each day, and extending your life."

Now over 20 years cancer-free, the 69-year-old Randall continues to do the work he loves, hopping on the radio, talking baseball, and helping ensure that men across America don't miss life's moments because of prostate cancer.



Randall (right) with 1969 Mets legends (from left to right) Cleon Jones, Ed Kranepool, Art Shamsky, and Ron Swoboda.

FANS FOR THE CURE