

About 85% of people that are diagnosed with small cell lung cancer never touched a cigarette in their life. This is what happened to a 23 year old college student from Chapel Hill, who had a dream of becoming a nurse so she could help people. While this non-smoking young woman was in nursing school, studying lung sounds, she heard a cracking sound in her own lungs. This young woman was Katherine Craig Wilson.

Katherine Wilson was born November 3, 1976 in Morganton, North Carolina. In 1995 Katherine honorably graduated from Freedom High School, where she became a member of the first girls soccer team. After she graduated, she went to the University of North Carolina to go through the nursing class that was available there.

Katherine worked hard with the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center to raise money for the construction of the new University of North Carolina Cancer Hospital. Katherine was enrolled at the University of North Carolina in 1999, and was scheduled to graduate in 2001. Katherine Wilson was a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society, the Psi Chi Honor Society, and Sigma Theta Tau, which is the International Honor Society of Nursing.

Katherine kept with her studies even when her eyes started to go bad because of her small cell lung cancer. Katherine's mother, Anne, recorded her books for her, so that she could listen to her lessons instead of giving up on her

lessons. She finally graduated from the University of North Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in May of 2004.

Katherine died on Wednesday, February 16, 2005 after fighting a courageous battle of small cell lung cancer at age 28. She kept fighting the small cell lung cancer that she had for almost 5 years.

Katherine Wilson inspires me to enjoy life while I still have it, and to also be patient with life, because life has its ups and downs. Katherine has taught me that you have to work hard to achieve your goals.