

I Miss My Friends
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EXCERPT

I'm one of five children in my family. We all smoked cigarettes. Not by example (my mother was never a smoker), but because that's what you did when we were growing up. You could smoke anywhere and advertising for smoking could be found everywhere: in the movies, magazines and television commercials. I smoked cigarettes for 23 years but quit in February of 1994, about three years after one of my sisters was diagnosed with lung cancer. Debbie is a lung cancer survivor because of a chance trip to the doctor. She thought she had bronchitis. Early detection saved my sister's life.