

Cancer Research

VOLUME 47 • NO. 9 CNREA 8 • PP 2211-2523

May 1, 1987



This space contributed as a public service.

FOR GENERATIONS CANCER PLAGUED THIS FAMILY. THEN WE CAME INTO THE PICTURE.



It's a tragic coincidence that cancer has taken so many members of this family over the years.

It took Frank Domato in 1961. Patricia O'Hara Brown in 1974. And Serafino Gentile in 1982.

But the fact that the chain of tragedies has now been broken is no coincidence at all.

Over the last 40 years, research programs supported by the American Cancer Society have made increasing progress in the treatment, detection and prevention of cancer.

In 1985 alone, the Society funded over 700 projects conducted by the most distinguished scientists and research institutions in the country.

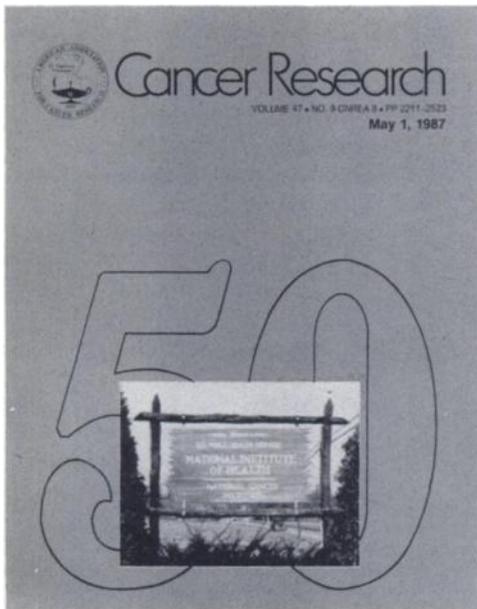
So it's no coincidence that in 1986, cancer did *not* take Debra Gentile—Frank Domato's great-granddaughter. Just as it didn't take hundreds of thousands of others who have been successfully treated for the disease.

You see, we are winning.

But we need you to help keep it that way.

 **AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**[®]
Help us keep winning.

COVER LEGEND



The rustic sign shown on the cover marked the site of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in its early years. This year the NCI celebrates its fiftieth anniversary with reflections on its past, present, and future.

Created by an Act of Congress signed into law by Franklin D. Roosevelt in August 1937, the NCI was directed to conduct cancer research as well as promote and coordinate studies performed elsewhere. Only \$400,000 were appropriated for the new agency in its first year, and half of that sum had to be used to fund

a radium loan program. Money was also appropriated for a new building for the Institute to be built in Bethesda. Opened in 1940, Building 6 contained the NCI and its entire staff which numbered about 100 people.

In the 50 years since its inception the NCI has grown enormously in many directions. Its budget long ago surpassed the \$700,000 ceiling initially imposed by Congress; last year more than \$1.2 billion were spent. However, the greatest growth has been in the extent of its involvement in extramural cancer research and treatment. One index of the amount of research funded by the NCI is that a majority of the articles published in this journal cite its support.

Among the activities supported by the Institute are a network of comprehensive cancer centers where both basic and clinical cancer research and clinical care are carried out; a program of cancer control; fellowships for the education and training of young scientists; the International Cancer Research Data Bank for the dissemination of information on cancer; and efforts for cooperation among scientists in the international cancer community. The strength and diversity of programs conducted or supported by the NCI have earned it worldwide preeminence.

Vincent T. DeVita, Jr. has been director of the Institute since 1980. Cancer Research extends congratulations to Dr. DeVita for his leadership and to the NCI for its outstanding accomplishments.

The history of the NCI is reviewed in the August 1977 issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute. We are grateful to the Office of Cancer Communications of the NCI for the photograph.