



2025 CAREGIVER AWARD HONOREE

HERBERT ALBERT

This was a hard decision because I have a wonderful support system, but when I made the first call to Herb, he came to my house and said, "Stephanie, I've been up all night

praying and trying to figure out what to say." Yet I was the one diagnosed with cancer. If you know Herb, you know he's a lot – funny, humble, over the top, and full of heart – but always genuine. He's someone I've always leaned on since I "adopted" him into my life, and when he finds out I nominated him for this award, he'll probably cry. That's just who he is.

Herb has always told me the truth, never sugarcoating anything. During my diagnosis, appointments, surgery, and chemotherapy, he coordinated his schedule with mine to take me whenever he could. He waited patiently through long visits, taught me how to record my appointments to review later, and even insisted on joining me when one doctor didn't sit right with him. His compassion and support for my flat-closure decision meant so much – he respected every boundary while still showing up for me completely.

Through it all, he kept me laughing – from joking with my nurses to coloring the chemotherapy side-effects booklet. When treatment ended, he encouraged me to share my story publicly to help others. Herb has been my strength, my humor, and my protector through this journey. Congratulations, Herb – you've earned every flower while you can still smell them.