

Patient Spotlight

Dina Lerman

I was living a hectic life as a New York City interior architect when my whole world suddenly changed forever. In March 1998 I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

Unfortunately, MS already had been a part of my life: my grandmother lived with progressive MS for 40 years. I was worried that I would spend the rest of my life like she did, paralyzed and in a wheelchair.

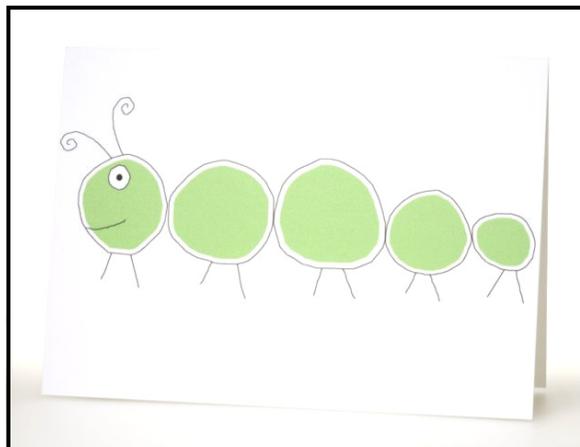
Dr. Joseph Herbert, in his caring and compassionate way, gave me hope that life didn't end with this devastating diagnosis.

Just a few weeks after being diagnosed, I participated for the first time in the New York City MS Walk with my team, "Bugged Out." For my team members, I brought along T-shirts that I had designed. The T-shirts depicted a simple printed caterpillar.

Every year since then, I have designed a different



A "Bugged Out" T-shirt



A "Bugged Out" greeting card

brightly-colored "Bugged Out" team T-shirt displaying either a ladybug, bumblebee, or butterfly. For many years I had been designing greeting cards and gift cards with my happy bugs, so it was a natural transition for me to put them on my team T-shirts as well.

While still working as an interior architect, and encouraged by the overwhelmingly positive response from friends, family, and even strangers to my vibrantly colored "Bugged Out" T-shirts, I decided to parlay my love of children and my whimsical bug designs into a fun, innovative collection of children's clothing called "Bugged Out."

My new clothing line for little ones will be coming soon! "Bugged Out" will also feature greeting cards as well as adult-sized T-shirts! Check out the website at www.bugged-out.com!

Editor's Note: We would like to thank Dina, who has graciously offered to donate a percentage of the proceeds from "Bugged Out" sales directly to MS research at the NYUHJD MS Center. Thank you Dina!

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