

## Natalie Grumet

### An Inspiring Warrior: A story of beating the odds, survival, and never losing hope



After surviving an aggressive form of cancer at 27 years old, Natalie's fortitude was tested again 10 years later on the Las Vegas strip, when she survived being shot in the face during the largest mass shooting in United States history. She shares how her determination after overcoming cancer and being shot in the face can be translated into your everyday life. Her story offers inspiration, hope, and motivation in conquering many of life's challenges.

Natalie has been featured in New York Life-The Cut, Orange Coast Magazine, Breast Cancer Wellness, J-Life Magazine, and the Orange County Register. Natalie was named "Thrivor of the Year" by Breast Cancer Wellness and was also recognized as Keynote Honoree at the Valiant Women Mission Hospital Annual Luncheon. She received the California statewide "Dignity Award" from St. Joseph Healthcare in 2017. She is the recipient of the Patients of Courage: Triumph over Adversity 2019 by The American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

By using her own experiences of extraordinary survival through courage and sparkling wit, she connects to audiences of all diversities. She has spoken at corporate gatherings, charity events, schools, and various religious group functions throughout the United States.

#### **Biography:**

On the evening of October 1, 2017, while attending the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival on the Las Vegas Strip with a group of friends, a gunman opened fire shooting Natalie in the face nearly killing her. The Las Vegas shooting massacre quickly became known as the deadliest mass shooting in United States history. For Natalie, this event began an agonizing and painful journey toward recovery while uncovering her endless strength, bravery, and resilience along the way. After making her way to safety at a nearby hotel, she was taken via ambulance to Sunrise Hospital where her jaw was noted to be completely obliterated – her chin fractured in half, facial nerves destroyed, leading the left side of her face partially paralyzed. She spent 20 days in the Intensive Care Unit and underwent nine surgeries during the first year.

Surprisingly, this was not Natalie's first attempt at fighting for her life. At the mere age of 27, Natalie was diagnosed with a devastating and highly aggressive form of breast cancer. After undergoing six rounds of intensive chemotherapy and numerous surgeries, Natalie beat the odds and eventually recovered. Soon after going into remission, she dedicated herself to patient care and rebuilding her life.

After 10 years in remission from breast cancer, Natalie found herself fighting for her life once again on the fateful night of the shooting in 2017. During her recovery, Natalie began sharing the coping mechanisms she has developed over the last decade to help others break down the

walls to realize their full potential and overcome adversity. This true story of a life being shattered and rebuilt in a mere decade has given strength and hope to thousands of people across the United States and world. Natalie is a survivor and a true warrior, and her message is one of perseverance to help others find their inner warrior to keep fighting and moving forward.

This story of determination, dedication, and tenacity for survival despite the odds has reached middle-school aged children to young adults and established professionals across the world. Since surviving the Las Vegas shooting with dignity and grace, Natalie has been interviewed by Dateline, ABC, FOX, Inside Edition, and CBS. With her soft smile and riveting life experiences, she is able to captivate diverse audiences. She uses touching moments of her own survival mixed with humor to keep her listeners engaged. Her story is unique in that while she has undergone horrific traumatic events, she maintains a compelling positivity that empowers those around her while engaging her listeners and providing strength and motivation for them to believe in themselves.

In her down time, Natalie enjoys spending time by the ocean near her home in Southern California with her husband of 16 years and their 5-year-old miniature Pinscher. She also enjoys gardening, getting lost in a good book, volunteering, and she jokingly calls herself a dessert connoisseur. Please visit Natalie's Facebook Group she created called "I am a Warrior" where she journals frequently and shares life experiences.

<https://www.facebook.com/warriorNatalie/>