

Mother used training to beat cancer

ALPHARETTA — Alpharetta mother and Aflac Iron-Girl Triathlon participant Meredith Moore received devastating news at a time when women are supposed to be celebrating.

Just six weeks after she gave birth to her first child in April 2005, Moore was diagnosed with a brain tumor.

"Here I was, still postpartum, and there's all sorts of craziness going on," she said.

Moore, who owns a financial planning firm in Roswell, had never undergone a serious medical procedure before her

C-section.

"I was the picture of perfect health," she said.

Moore had her first cranial surgery to remove the 7-centimeter malignant tumor on June 7, 2005. Just a month later she needed a second one to repair the damage done by doctors in the first.

Then came 33 radiation treat-

ments and a year of chemotherapy. Her mother also died during that time.

"I've had quite the interesting time since June of 2005," she said.

But Moore said she made it through because of her dedication to triathlons.

A collegiate swimmer at Rice

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and Georgia Tech universities, Moore began triathlons in 2003 as a way to get in shape while in the adult world. She said it soon became a way of life.

"That's the thing about triathlons — they're addictive," said Moore.

During her cancer treatments, Moore never stopped working and never stopped training. And she said it's made all the differ-

ence — to prove it, she's even had the Iron-Girl logo tattooed on her left arm.

"I used my training as a way to focus on something and work through it," she said.

And the physical benefits paid off in big dividends. After her first surgery, doctors told Moore she had just one year to live. She's now celebrated the anniversary of four — and as a cancer survivor AFLAC is paying her race fees.

"Being young and in shape allows you to withstand those treatments more than the average person," she said.

- Jason Wright