

Subject: Euthanasia

In May 2014, I watched my beloved 98 year old mum take 10 days to die of dehydration & starvation. This was in spite of having a "Dying with Dignity" will in place. She had collapsed twice within a few hours, & although she was interactive & conscious, she refused food & drink. On day 5 her GP started her on morphine, however not enough to follow her wishes. She looked like someone from a concentration camp, without any strength to stand or complete any personal care. Her final 3 hours were spent with very distressed breathing, despite her families pleading for her medical staff to give her more morphine to relieve her distress. Legal reasons & personal beliefs were given as the reason.

In November 2014, I sat at the bedside of a close friend who had bravely battled cancer for 5 years. She had illegally obtained the means, to end her life, when she chose. This gave her enormous mental relief. However, unexpectedly she ended up in hospital & was unable to follow her wishes due to legal concerns. She died the death she was trying to avoid.

Please make it a legal choice for people, who are terminally ill, to choose the time & place to have a peaceful death.

Kay Steer