

From: [Jim Harvey](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: Inquiry into End of Life Choices
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My father suffered a stroke after surgery for his second hip replacement, at age 77. He was TPI, after war service in WWII (Bomber Command pilot in Europe with 467 Sqn), and Vietnam (Caribou pilot RFTV); and police actions in Malaysia - Lincoln pilot and subsequently Canberra pilot. He suffered several injuries over his 30 year RAAF career. Hence the TPI classification.

Following his stroke he languished for 4 years in a nursing home, physically incapacitated but mentally able to beg for the right to die. He had always been physically active, a rugby player in his youth, tennis and golf in middle to aged status, a keen and productive gardner on his retirement to an average. There was no prospect for his recovery. My mother visited him every day until she was incapacitated after 3 years by a fall, which hospitalised her for 6 months.

You would not treat your dog they way dad suffered, with consequent mental injury to my then elderly mother, who mercifully herself died 10 days after suffering a stroke at age 92, some years later.

Please seriously consider introducing legislation to free medicos to legally ease a terminal patient to a merciful death, following safeguards to ensure that this is not abused.

As a single person with no dependents, approaching the age where I may be consigned to a nursing home in the event of a stroke or similar event, I recoil from the means currently available to ensure I do not have a lingering and painful death.

Jim harvey

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