

RESTRICTED

Form MG11(T)

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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

Statement of: HUNTINGTON, DAVID ANDREW

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: SALES CONSULTANT

This statement (consisting of 4 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed: D HUNTINGTON

Date: 28/02/2005

I am the above named person and I live at the address shown overleaf. I make this statement with regard to my father, Robert Caldwell WILSON , who died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital , in October 1999.

My father was born in Paisley in Scotland where he grew up and went on to join the Royal Navy as a boy sailor. My father had one sister but I only have a vague recall of her. I never met his parents and I am not aware of any illness within the family.

My father served in World War II and rose to the rank of CPO. It was during his time in the Navy that he met my mother who was a wren. My parents were married in about 1950 and began a family.

My oldest brother, Logan was born in 1951, Lesley in about 1954, Keran in about 1957, Iain in 1959, Neil 1963, Tracey 1964 and me in 1969. My father left the navy quite some time before I was born. I know he worked in various jobs such as bus driver, coach driver, chip shop and as a joiner for a number of furniture companies.

I would describe dad as a fit and active man, I don't ever recall him being ill. I would say dad was always quite a heavy drinker, he didn't drink everyday nor did I see him falling over drunk. He was more in control of his drinking as he got older. Dad also smoked as I grew up between 20-40 day, but after he got to seventy years of age he just gave up one day.

When I was quite young, about 12, my parents divorced this would have been about 1981 - 82.

Signed: D HUNTINGTON
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by:

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Continuation of Statement of: HUNTINGTON, DAVID ANDREW

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Dad went on to marry a lady called Gill in about 1985. I maintained contact with dad and saw him at weekends although I was still living with my mum. Dad still had a full and active life and was working. He retired when he was 65 and was living in Sarisbury Green.

I am aware that Dad had a short stay at the Queen Alexandra Hospital in Portsmouth in about 1998, I think this was because of general ill health. At the time I was away working and was updated by other family members. Dad was out of hospital before I got to see him.

In about September 1999 dad had a fall and was admitted again to the QA Hospital in Portsmouth. I went and saw dad whilst he was in hospital, he seemed to be well looked after and was clean and tidy. He was in a wheel chair following his fall but seemed lucid and seemed happy enough with where he was. He spoke about going home.

I was told by the staff at the QA that dad was being moved to another hospital to convalesce. I didn't know what hospital that was but the outlook seemed positive and I fully expected dad to get better and go home. The impression I had was that dad was over the worst of it.

I don't know the exact but dad was moved in a minibus in the second week of October 1999 to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. This would suggest he was well enough to be moved and not in an ambulance which I would have expected if he had been really ill.

I next saw my father on the day prior to his death. I was totally shocked. It was completely unexpected to see such a decline in his health. He had his private room as a ward. When I went and saw he had his eyes shut but was conscious. He was able to move his hand and was aware that I was in the room. He also moved his head to face me. Dad was not able to speak and I spent some time with him.

As I went to leave dad held my hand and gave it a strong squeeze. He didn't seem to want to let go. As I pulled my hand away it was as if dad was very agitated about something, I tried to reassure him by telling him Lesley was on her way from America. Sadly this was the last time I saw my father alive.

Signed: D HUNTINGTON
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Continuation of Statement of: HUNTINGTON, DAVID ANDREW

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I don't recall speaking to any of the staff at the hospital about dad. I was phoned the following day by my mum to say dad had died.

I have always had concerns about how fast dad declined after he arrived at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

Taken by: Code ASigned: D HUNTINGTON
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by: