

RESTRICTED

STATEMENT

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 Signed Name [L.K.J. EDWARDS]
 Telephone No
 Postcode
 Date Of Birth
 Occupation [LOANS OFFICER]
 Address [Code A]
 Forename 1 [KERAN LYNN]
 Surname [EDWARDS]

I am the above named person and I live at the address overleaf. I make this statement with regard my fathers Robert Caldwell WILSON /N5 who was born on the [Code A] and died on the 18th October 1998 (18/10/1998).

I am one of eight children /A795 /F1 born to dad and my mother [Code A]

Code A

With regard to my father he was born in Glasgow and served in the Royal Navy for 22 years. He joined at 15 and saw active service. After he left the Navy he took on a variety of jobs. These included jobs such as milkman, bus driver, social security and making window frames. He always missed the Royal Navy which was very much his first love.

I don't know much about my grandparents on dad's side of the family but grandma was 80 when she died and grandfather was probably older as he died some time after his wife.

I am not aware of any health problems that dad had during his life, he was fit and active as a younger man and I don't recall him being ever being ill. Dad smoked from the age of 9 and I would describe him as a chain smoker. He would smoke 40 a day. He did however manage to give up. I think he gave up smoking about 4 years before he died.

Code A

Mum and dad got divorced in 1982 and dad re-married to Gillian /N1096 /A805 /F2 in the mid 1980's. They lived together in Sarisbury Green near Park Gate. Gillian is still local to the area.

Within the family there have been a number of rifts, I have very little contact with any of my family with the exception of Lesley who now lives in America. Prior to dad's death I had not seen him for six years. I only saw him again three weeks before his death. I had been contacted by Neil who told me dad had had a fall and was in the Queen Alexander Hospital /L194.

I went and saw him in the QA. He was quite ill, in a coma. He looked in a bad way his arm and back were badly discoloured from the break to his shoulder and arm. He had put on about four stone since I last saw him. I was very shocked to see dad like this.

[Code A] He was put on a drip and within a few days he was back to his normal self. He was lucid and able to hold a conversation. He was still quite restricted in his movement but he seemed as if he was on his road to recovery. In my opinion dad was suffering from depression whilst at the QA, dad would say on more than one occasion, "I wish I was dead". I don't think he would have harmed himself but I was surprised that he said it in front as my daughter who was only 17; [Code A] was quite upset at this.

Whilst dad was at the QA the family would visit so I saw quite a few of them. Neil was the person who was sorting everything out amongst the family and also at the hospital. Of all the children Neil was the closest to dad.

I visited dad everyday whilst he was at the QA. Dad seemed to be getting better in a physical way and also seemed to be more his old self in regards to his mental well being. Dad's way was to have a rant and a rave, or just to moan about things.

On about the 10th October 1998 (10/10/1998) I was made aware that dad was being moved to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital /C31. Neil was arranging most of this and I think dad went to the GWMH on Monday 12th October 1998 (12/10/1998). I thought dad was going to the GWMH for rehabilitation because it was close to home, because he had had been in the Royal Navy and also because they needed the bed at the QA. Like the rest of the family I fully expected dad to come home at some stage.

Neil was still having most to do with dad seeing him everyday and also talking to the staff at the GWMH.

On Wednesday 14th October 1998 (14/10/1998) I got a phone call from Neil saying dad had taken a turn for the worse. I went and

saw dad on the 15/10/98 (15/10/1998) but he was unconscious. I spoke with Neil and a staff nurse who's name I don't know. Neil told me that dad had had a bad trip to the hospital and had asked Neil and the staff that he be made comfortable, he not be treated for anything and in the event of cardiac arrest he should not be resuscitated. This came as quite a shock.

Code A

From this stage on I was expecting dad to die. The rest of the family started to gather, including Lesley who flew in from America.

Neil continued to have most contact with the staff at the hospital, at this point the rest of the family were happy that Neil had taken this role on. The staff at the hospital were helpful and kind and would speak to any of us but I found it easier to leave it to Neil.

On Saturday 17th October 1998 (17/10/1998) I was at the GWMH, Lesley had arrived from America and although everyone had been in only Lesley and I were there late in the evening. I don't know which one but a female nurse had told me it was likely that dad would die that night.

At about 2340 hours on the 17/10/98 (17/10/1998) Lesley and I were asked to leave dad's room by three nurses /N1164 /A941 /F3 with a trolley. They were all ladies. I don't recall the ward dad was on but it was a private room. They said they wanted to make dad comfortable. They made us some tea and we left the room.

Lesley and I returned to the room at 0000 hours the nurses had left but I had not seen them go. Dad was silent, prior to this his breathing had been noisy. It was Lesley who noticed. I found one of the three nurses who had been in and told her. She came with another of the three, she took a pulse and said "He hasn't gone yet, there is still a pulse but he is going now".

I was unable to feel a pulse, I got the impression dad was already dead and they were just being nice. A few moments later the nurse said "He has gone now". They opened a window to let his spirit out.

I can only describe the nurses as follows, all were white females, they were all in their forties and all of medium build. One of them wore a dark uniform the other two wore light uniforms. I don't think I would recognise them again. They all seemed kind and caring.

The rest of the family came to the GWMH that night. Neil dealt with all the arrangements after this.

Iain has always had his suspicions about dad's death, I never had any worries until recently. My concerns are if any foul play has been done we should know. I think it is possible that the staff gave him diamorphine because he had asked to die and didn't want to go home to his wife, for her to look after him.