

Elysha's Story

Recently, Rotherham Hospice has become a massive part of my life and I am extremely grateful for all of their help and the work they do. In July 2017, my Grandad had started having chest pains and was admitted to A&E on two occasions. In August he had a CTCAP scan and immediate recall diagnosed my Grandad with what had been causing the painful symptoms: Cancer of the lung, liver, lymph and bone.

The symptoms of my Grandad's illness meant that his body rejected the oral drugs which were prescribed to him by his consultant. Rotherham Hospice stepped in immediately, providing him with a bed, a room and care 24/7 from the specialist nurses, doctors and volunteers. They used their medical skills and facilities to bring my Grandad's symptoms under control. They were also able to provide care for my Grandma, myself and the rest of my close family whilst we came to grips with the suddenness and severity of the heart-breaking news we'd just been given.

After two weeks at the Hospice as an in-patient, my Grandad came home but the "Hospice at Home" team still provided care for my Grandad. It was just like receiving the same care as an in-patient but just at home, again 24/7. The hospice provided not only medical equipment and nursing staff, but also all necessary mobility aids, emotional support and advice.

Whilst all of this was going off, my other Grandad had been on oxygen machines for a year or two and in August 2017, had to go to hospital with a chest infection which later turned into septicaemia. Luckily after ten days in hospital, he came home and he was then signed up to Rotherham Hospice too but he never had to go there.

Unfortunately on the 17th October, my Grandad who had been in hospital with the chest infection passed away at home as he had wished. Then on the 19th October, my other Grandad also passed away at home surrounded by his family.

They will both be deeply missed and not a single day goes by where I don't think about them. My life has changed massively since then as I've had no Grandads tormenting me all the time and playing games with me, no Grandads to cheer me on in the sports I love and most importantly, no Grandads to comfort me or cheer me up when I'm down. Even though, they're gone, they're still there squeezing my hand and I can hear their voices cheering me on but still teasing me. They will always be in my heart.

For this reason, I am wanting to cut my hair and donate it to the Little Princess Trust who use hair that people have donated to create wigs for children who have lost their hair to cancer and other illnesses. I will be cutting my hair on Thursday 10th May 2018 and I would be very grateful to anyone who takes the time to sponsor me and all money that I raise will be going to Rotherham Hospice to say a massive thank you for all of their help.

 *Little Princess Trust*[®]
Providing real hair wigs for children suffering with hair loss

