

Statement from the family of Arthur to accompany the Safeguarding Adults Review

In Arthur's memory a Husband, Dad, Grandfather and Great Granddad, who passed away in very tragic circumstances on 28 September 2021. As a family we would want to ensure that no family must endure such a tragedy and trauma like we have experienced.

What is so tragic is our father managed to survive a stroke and covid after he spent the last two year's doing the right thing by isolating indoors to keep himself safe. It is incomprehensible to us that due to so many failures within so many public service systems meant to protect the vulnerable, that he should lose his life in his home in this way, witnessed by his wife and our sister, people he would have wanted to protect.

Most distressing of all is that he died at the hands of our big brother [Anthony], who protected us and was one of the kindest people you could ever meet when he was well. He is also a victim due to his declining mental health over the last few years. He was gravely let down. Sadly, we lost two people that day, the men of the family.

Our family has been put through so much turmoil. The strain on our mental health and physically wellbeing has been indescribable.

We have listened to many references made to 'lessons learnt' so as a family we need to have real and lasting assurances that everything will be done to ensure that vulnerable people such as my brother are not left to suffer in silence. There were so many cries for help – not only from people around [Anthony], and particularly our mother being ignored, but also from members of the general public.

A key lesson that must be learnt here is if these individuals were listened to then Arthur would still be with us today, of that we are certain.

We as a family need assurance that this is not just a tick box and compliance exercise. There must be more mitigation processes in place when someone is clearly a danger to themselves and people around them. Nothing will end this nightmare, but we will take great comfort to know the recommendations will go some way to stopping other families enduring such tragedy.

Extract from Arthur's Memorial Page

Arthur was a true traditionalist when it came to Christmas. Always encouraging mum to find the biggest Turkey as carving the Turkey for him was his specialty. Arthur loved Christmas which is why Mum is determined that the family celebrate Christmas this year in honour of Arthur. He also loved fireworks night. He always stoked up a huge bonfire, throwing in jacket potatoes, corn on the cob and breadfruit, and of course, sparklers, with a classic famous Fluffy (Frothy) milk to end the night.

Arthur adored children. He was a hands-on father in supporting his wife when she arrived home with their new-born brood each time, ensuring he did the first bath for all his Children, the swaddling and held the children in the right way to keep them all safe and later on the same for his Grandchildren.

Sadly, Arthur leaves behind his wife of 54 years, Annette, five Children and three Grandchildren. He will rest with the angels and will be partying in Heaven no doubt with his friends and family already waiting for him to play dominoes. We can just imagine his familiar laughter ringing out high in the sky and of course endless banter with those that he meets again.

Fly high King Arthur. You will be sorely missed!