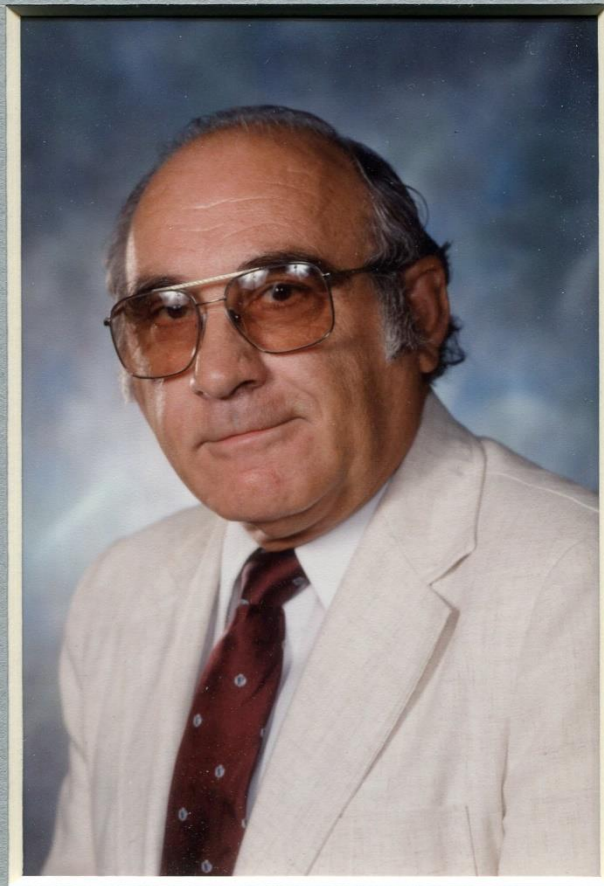


Family

By Chaplain Paul 193 Feb 16 2021



What does your family mean to you? Did you ever stop to think about all the times your family was there for you when no one else was? When the storms of life come crashing at our front doors it is our faith in God and our family that helps us to weather out the storm.

Back in the 90s my mother and my father became very sick, my father was diagnosed with prostate cancer and my mother had to go into the hospital for tests because she was losing weight and three days later she went into full respiratory failure because the hospital staff forgot to give her a medication she had been taking for 30 years and because of their incompetence and oversight in not giving her medication her body went into shock and entered into full respiratory failure, she was then placed on a ventilator, drugged unconscious, her hands tied to the bed with 12 ivs coming out of her body and on the same day my nephew Kevin junior was born premature and had to be air evact by helicopter to a different hospital where he was put on a ventilator and fighting for his life as well all this while my sister in law was put into an induced coma because of complications while giving birth and there was my poor father who was fighting prostate cancer weeping by his wife's bedside not knowing if he should leave her and go to be by my brother's side who was with his wife not knowing if his wife or newborn son were going to make it through the night. We decided that I would stay with my mother and my father would go to be by my brother's side. This began four years of living hell for my family in dealing with the lies and the greed and the corruption of American health care, even now over 25 years later I have a hard time writing about this.

When a person is first placed on a ventilator most of the time they're drugged unconscious in order to handle the trauma of it, a ventilator is inserted through the mouth and down the throat and goes into the lungs in order to help a person to breathe. Blood was trickling out of the side of my mother's mouth as her hands were tied to the sides of the bed so that she wouldn't involuntarily try to pull the tubes from out of her mouth, the doctors at the hospital mistakenly overmedicated my mother causing her to have a slight stroke a slight heart attack, kidney failure, and renal failure they lied to our family many times telling us that my mother was very ill and that we just had to wait and see what will happen and they did not know why all of these issues were happening to my mother. They knew damn well they had made very serious mistakes in my mother's case and instead

or being honest with my family they made matters much worse by lying many times to try to cover up their mistakes. Many times over the next four years if I had not been in the room by my mother's side in order to catch mistakes she would have died that is why it is so important in having a strong family health care advocate be by our love one's side when having to deal with American healthcare because mistakes are made and unless we're in there to catch things quickly in preventing mistakes then the outcome could be fatal and sadly many times it is, but I'm not going to talk about all that right now I want to focus on what my dad did for my mom.

My father at age 69 who was fighting prostate cancer and having to deal with all the treatments and stress of that illness even with the chemo therapy and the radiation treatments and the minor outpatient surgical procedures he managed to go visit my mother who was suffering dearly in the hospital every single day and it was through his unwavering love and support and through the visits and love and support by all of us in our family who loved my mother dearly and believe me we had to fight tooth and nail with the hospital through all of this, that she was able to finally come home to be with her family she was still very ill and had to be cared for, she was on oxygen but thank God she was finally back home after having gone through 4 months of living hell. (My father died in 1996 and my mother died in 1998 my sister in law and my nephew Kevin junior survived.)

Why is this important? because right now millions of patients across our country are being denied visits by their loved ones and in so doing limits a person's ability to have a healthy, positive state of mind and it limits a person's ability to have a fighting chance for a speedier recovery and it places our loved ones at high risk because we're not in there to watch over them and protect them in preventing mistakes and to ensure that staff is doing their job and are doing their job correctly.

Family is essential in healthcare, we are not to be locked out under any circumstances or under any conditions we should have never allowed what is happening to have happened in the first place, we shouldn't have sacrificed ourselves from being by our family members side which is critical when having to deal with life and death situations in American healthcare, it should have been the other way around the health care providers should have made SAFE

accommodations that would have allowed at least one healthy screened Covid 19 tested family member one who takes the same precautions as staff to be allowed to come in on a regular basis to be by their family members side.

NOW ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!!!!! Place yourself in their shoes put yourselves in my father's shoes if he was being locked out right now because of all of this mess the added stress would have caused his prostate cancer to spread more quickly and get worse because stress makes the cancer spread just think of all the family members out there right now who's illnesses have been compounded because of the added stress of not being allowed to get into the health care facilities and visit their loved ones. Think of all the patients who are being forced to be separated from their loved ones, that added stress compounds their illness because the patient gets a heightened level of worry, doubt, fear, anxiety, depression, and even suicidal thoughts which are detrimental to one's mental health and their ability to recover.

Now I'm not playing games anymore the general public and our elected officials have got to get up off their A\$\$E\$ and demand that safe visitation rooms in American health care facilities be provided immediately for the wellbeing and the safety of the patients. Visitation rooms that are safe, compassionate, and efficient where at least one healthy screened COVID-19 tested family member one who takes the same precautions as staff could come in at least two times a week for at least 30 minutes to visit their loved ones who are suffering dearly each day.

Please contact your elected officials to voice your concerns and to share your solutions to this very serious health care crisis that's facing our nation because at the end of the day the real question becomes how would you feel, I mean really, how would you feel if you or someone you love were suffering dearly all alone in a hospital, nursing home, care center or medical rehab and being denied visits by your loved ones the fact is these poor people have been placed in isolation on 24 hour seven days a week lock down being treated like common criminals and prison inmates and zoo animals having been denied the love and the compassion and the encouragement and protection that is absolutely vital when dealing with health care issues in this country and it is the compassion and the love and the encouragement and added protection that only family members and very close

friends can provide and they are key elements in providing for one's health care treatment.

May God bless you all from Chaplain Paul 193 John 14:27