

Life is Beautiful

I speak today as a son. On February 3, 2014 I called the nursing station at L& M hospital New London, CT. I was notified that my mother, Jeanne Nagle, had passed away of Cardiac arrest brought on by sepsis (MRSA). Some say it is a blessing she went to Quickly-my heart does not agree. Jeanne Nagle suffered from dementia. She suffered but Her suffering brought out heroic love in those caring for her-my dad, the visiting nurses Of SE CT, Angel care and Utopia. Bedridden since Labor day she was unable to bathe or Feed or clothe herself. She always called me by my brother's name-Marty. Some believe That one's worth and dignity is dependent upon what one can do or produce. I reject that Philosophy. Children can't feed themselves-look at all the joy they bring to the world. People who are paralyzed can't feed themselves-look at their inspiring stories. Physician Assisted Suicide is a line that cannot be crossed. It doesn't matter if the words are "Compassionate aid in dying", the end result is still the same. It is argued that there will be Strict restrictions put in place. I disagree. It is very subjective. Who will decide what types of pain qualify for life ending medication and which ones don't? It is like trying to compare grief. It is personal. So is pain. The love of my mother radiated to the aides who used to love to hear her say: "You are pretty" or "You look really nice today." Instead of advocating to terminate one's life can't we better direct our resources to Palliative care and Hospice? This is not a religious issue. It is a human rights issue. We need to be the hands and feet to care for and love the most vulnerable in our midst. For you see, it is not just about the terminally ill patient, it is also about the loved ones left behind. Please vote "No" on H.B. 5326. What Jeanne Nagle taught me was that there was a real person

Beneath the dementia. Jeanne Nagle taught me that “Life is Beautiful.”