

Marjolijn de Jager

To Whom It May Concern:

My mother died 11 years ago after years of suffering agonizing pain from the consequences of long-term osteoporosis. She was bedridden the last 14 months of her life, unable to move most of her muscles, needing a bedpan around the clock, often needing to be fed, depending on hospice assistance, and always asking for a way out.

She was completely lucid and only wanted to be able to end her life in a dignified fashion. Originally from the Netherlands, she kept wanting to go "home" where she felt the system would be more empathetic to her situation. Her own physician of decades was sympathetic but could not help her without risking his license to practice. She suffered intense pain for ten years or more and in the end simply lay in bed without any quality of life and only wishing to die.

It caused my mother, as well as our whole family, years of unnecessary suffering. Every human being needs to have the right to die with dignity when there is no hope of recovery left!

Sincerely,

Marjolijn de Jager