

PReP 8.2 - Palliative Care

Lesson 2 - Judy and Her Friends

Host:

Judy is a 48 year old woman with terminal liver cancer. She has no family and lives alone, but has an extensive circle of friends from all walks of life. She has recently been told that the chemotherapy has failed to stem her cancer and there are no further medical options available to her. She has invited two of her closest friends around to tell them.

Judy:

And that's it I guess. There's nothing else they can do. I'm in the palliative zone now.

Close the door and throw away the key.

Pat:

Judy - Judy...I'm so sorry.

Judy:

I was hoping you could stay for moral support. The nurse is coming.

Nancy:

Of course! Absolutely. Anything. We're here.

Judy:

They're saying six months. I've got to start sorting things.

Nancy:

What do they know about how long you've got. Remember - anything is possible.

Judy:

I'm hoping.

Host:

As one palliative advocate has observed, "As varied as the stars in the skies, no two people follow the exact trajectory along their end of life journey – we must meet them in their own star light."