



PJ with his loving family
and their pet dog, Ardboe

PJ's story

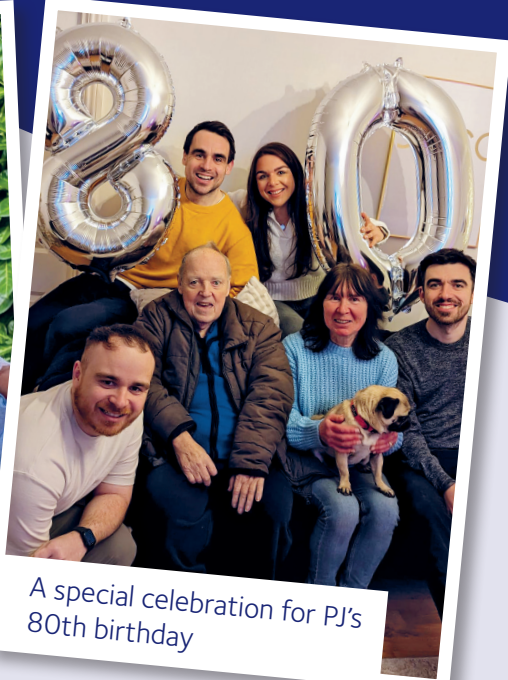
"...this was the best place,
it was home from home."

Ros had been caring for husband, PJ, at home before he was admitted to our In-Patient Unit, where the Hospice team was able to get his pain under control quickly.

Ros recalls: 'I went in to see him and it was a shock – he hadn't been in a bed for over two years because it had been too painful, he had spent all that time in an armchair, but he was under a blanket and really comfortable. He looked better already.'



PJ and Ros



A special celebration for PJ's 80th birthday

PJ's daughter, Jessica, recalls: *'He loved apple juice and it was always there in seconds. He always looked clean and fresh and dinner was served on a pretty doily, with a napkin. It was the attention to detail, nothing was ever too much.'*

PJ was a proud father of four children and Ros remains grateful they could visit so often, with their much-loved dog, Ardboe, who was given an extra bowl of peas one lunchtime because she loved them so much: *'There were no visiting limits and because we have different work patterns, we were able to visit at different times.'*

On the evening that PJ died, the family all gathered at the Hospice. Jessica remembers; *'A lady at the door just scooped me up, I was shaking and she took me to the room. I walked in and saw a pink dove decoration had been placed on the door, Dad just looked like he was asleep.'*

Ros is able to look back positively at PJ's death, saying: *'It was very sad and a shock, but because of the way he was treated this was the best place, it was home from home. I can't think of a better place for him to die, not in pain. There was nothing better that could've been done to make it a better experience.'*