

RESTRICTED

Form MG11(T)

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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

Statement of: TUFFEY, ALEXANDER WILLIAM

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: RETIRED

This statement (consisting of page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed: Code A Date: 19/10/2004

I live at the address known to the Police.

I am the nephew of Helena SERVICE nee SMITH Code A. My mother Charlotte was Helena's sister and she had another sister Kathleen.

My Aunty Helena was known as Nellie by everyone. She was born in Watford and up until her marriage to Frank SERVICE in 1929, she worked at an auctioneers.

They didn't have any children and when Frank retired they moved to Stubbington to live.

My Aunty Kath had moved to Stubbington so Frank and Nellie retired down there too.

My mother Charlotte died from cancer in 1939 and Aunty Kath died from a heart attack whilst in her 70's.

I have been asked if I know any of Aunty Nellie's medical history.

She went deaf at an early age. She was always physically fit and very alert. She was a very intelligent woman.

My uncle died shortly after they moved to Stubbington and eventually after my other aunt and uncle died, Nellie was left on her own. She continued to live alone and was perfectly able to care for herself. She would visit us regularly.

Signed: Code A
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by: Code A

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Continuation of Statement of: TUFFEY, ALEXANDER WILLIAM

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In the early 1990's Aunt Nellie had a stroke and though she regained all of her mental faculties she lost some use in her left hand.

She continued to live alone but was supported by various home helps and meals on wheels.

In 1993 the GP recommended that Aunt Nellie needed more care than she was getting and she moved into Willow Cottage Nursing Home .

Aunt Nellie after she settled in, liked living at the home. She was able to get about with the aid of walking stick and she was mentally alert and active. She would do the Telegraph crossword every day and was a voracious reader.

In the early part of 1997 Aunty Nellie became ill. She got a bad cough and was taken into the Queen Alexandra Hospital at Cosham. She was there for a few days. We visited her here and as did Jeff and Elaine WHITE who ran Willow Cottage.

They told Nellie that they were unable to take her back to Willow Cottage as she would need a greater level of care.

Aunty Nellie was deeply distressed by this. Her cough had left her very frail and very weak.

We spoke about where Nellie could go and Geoff WHITE informed us that he had a friend who ran a nursing home which could accommodate Nellie and that she would be happy there.

I cannot recall who suggested it but someone within the hospital suggested that Aunt Nellie could go to a new unit for old people. The unit was marvellous and it wouldn't cost anything.

This unit was at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital . I didn't know where this unit was, nor did I ever visit it.

Signed: Code A
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by: Code A

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Continuation of Statement of: TUFFEY, ALEXANDER WILLIAM

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A few days later I received a telephone call to say that Aunt Nellie had been moved to the hospital and that she had died in the early hours of the morning. My aunt died on 5th June 1997 (05/06/1997).

I received a telephone call from the hospital asking why I hadn't been to the hospital to collect the documents relating to Aunt Helena.

My aunt's death was unexpected, she hadn't complained of being in any pain, she was just frail. She had desperately wanted to live until she was 100 years old.

Her cause of death is given as 1a Congestive cardiac failure and was signed by Dr J BARTON .

In accordance with her wishes she was cremated.

Signed: Code A
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by: Code A