

Completing the MOLST Forms to Ensure that My Father's Wishes Were Followed

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Flora Allen

In the early 80's, my father announced that he had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Not knowing much about it, I researched Parkinson's on the internet and found that this disease not only takes a toll physically, but it takes a toll in terms of Dementia. My father did well until the late 1990's when he was placed in a nursing home. As his health deteriorated, it became obvious that he would be unable to make his own healthcare decisions. I began discussions with my family about completing the MOLST forms to ensure that my father's wishes were followed. Although it was a difficult process for my mother, she soon understood the importance of having the MOLST form.

My father passed away in 2005 as we held him in our arms. His room was filled with other family members including his nurses and nurses' aides. As difficult as it was to lose my hero, I take comfort in the fact that he died peacefully and lovingly. We should all be so lucky.