



# Masters 2019

## WOW!

Before I start....

I'm sorry I haven't posted anything for a few months, Sadly my Farther passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

2 years ago my Father, Tony, as he was known was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer! As we all know we are subjected to cancer in some way shape or form, but until it hits the family you don't realise how it affects you or the family.

Once told, naturally worried, and concerned, what happens now, all questions and thoughts flying through my head. But speaking to my mum the day she told me she seemed very calm. So rather than asking all these questions I wanted to see how Dad was first.

After seeing Mum, Dad, brother and sister we talked about what's next, Dad seemed to very calm, collective and positive about the whole thing. So I am going to be too.

The doctors explained what's next and treatment was about to start.

One year passed and treatment went well and the cancer had reduced in size, which this gave Dad his appetite back for a short while. Christmas came and went off 2017 and into the New Year Dad had a problem with his eye and the blood vessel burst which left him blind in one eye, but as with his cancer and now his eye, Dad always stayed positive. Dad carried on waiting on more hospital appointments for both cancer and eyes.

Dad wasn't allowed to drive as for poor sight, so left to my Mum to taxi him around. After 6 months of his eye, eventually he did get part vision back, but due to the damage done his vision wasn't going to be great, also a cataract developed! Yes more appointments!

Towards the end of autumn Dad came to visit me at Bovey Tracey Golf Centre, prior to a few weeks of horrid weather, the day he came to see me the temperature went up to about 15 degrees sun was out and the birds were singing and no wind! Dad looked a little tired and a bit weaker. We sat there for about 2 hours, small topics of conversation, he just enjoyed looking out to the moor, smiling embracing the beauty of where we live, he looked content and at peace with the world! Sadly to say this was the last day Dad got out of bed to embrace life.

Quite rapidly the cancer spread after being contained for so long. To other organs and the bone.

Visited Dad regularly at home, the doctors said that it maybe 2 weeks but if he's strong minded he may get till Christmas 2018. Now it becomes real!

Dad was always a strong and fair minded man, not once did I ever hear Dad complain about having cancer, he was more worried out his eye to which we all found quite funny but that is dad to a tee, he always made us not to worry, sure he was poorly but always made us feel safe, grounded, unconditionally loved, respectful, kind and caring.

Time passed and we made it to Christmas and into the New Year 2019, we were all amazed by how he kept going. My sister has work at care homes for long periods and new how the caring goes, she maintain a clear and understanding how Dad was doing. To the point and how and what would be happening to his body and mind. This gave us time to reflect and express how we felt. But really, in a nice way we had time to say our goodbyes, and I say this with heart felt to those whom never had the opportunity to say their goodbyes, I was there for the last 5 days of his life, the nurses were tremendous, caring and again honest with what was happening.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January, Dad passed away peacefully, I was there and honoured to be there, and proud to call him my DAD.

To my Mum, you have been the most incredible Wife, Mother, nanny and Nurse.

Dad, from the bottom of my heart thank you for making me the way I am. I LOVE YOU.