

In recent years my life has been heavily impacted by the death of two significant people – both from “low survival rate” cancers.

Firstly in 2013 after a courageous battle with GBM Brain Cancer and after 2 brain operations, my dear friend, Joy Easton passed away. The following year, my husband, Bruce Hearn died of Pancreatic Cancer. As a supportive friend and carer, I have witnessed the journey of two previously vibrant people, both in their sixties, who have succumbed to cancers that have low survival rates.

I have supported my loved ones through treatments such as radiation and/or chemotherapy, dealing with the shock and financial pressure of expensive drugs and palliative care, all the while facing atrocious odds and the fact that survival statistics are dismal and hope of their survival constantly becoming non-existent.

For these two courageous adults living this cancer journey with virtually no hope of survival is sad and cruel to witness, despite great advances in treatments of other cancers (which of course is fantastic)!

Perhaps if funding to these ‘low survival rate cancers’, was reviewed, sufferers could benefit by hope being restored to an arduous journey.

I submit this personal account and trust that vital funds are channelled into ‘low survival rate’ cancers so that research / trials / treatments can be afforded reliable funding to give those unfortunate enough to be afflicted by Brain Cancer and Pancreatic Cancer ie: low survival rate cancers, an equitable shot at survival.

These low survival rate cancers need dedicated focus and funding to ensure survival rates change for the better & families and the community are not prematurely deprived of good people.

I make this submission in loving memory of Joy Easton and Bruce Hearn