

Ringraziamenti del Sig. Wood al Prof. A. David e al personale dell'U.O.C. Anestesia e Rianimazione

Il Sig. Alan D Wood, in occasione del suo 50° anniversario di matrimonio, ha deciso insieme alla moglie Margaret di festeggiare questo evento in Sicilia. Durante il soggiorno, la moglie ha accusato un malore che l'ha vista costretta ad essere ricoverata d'urgenza presso l'U.O.C. Anestesia e Rianimazione del Prof. A. David.

Il Sig. Wood esprime, nella sua lettera di ringraziamento, tutta la sua stima per l'alta professionalità e umana comprensione dell'équipe del reparto, ed in particolare per la vicinanza del Prof. David, del quale ne ha ammirato da subito la dedizione, che lo ha tenuto costantemente informato, in lingua inglese, sulle condizioni della Sig.ra Margaret.

Ne è nato un forte legame con il personale del reparto, sempre pronto a prestare assistenza, e con i parenti degli altri pazienti. Ha apprezzato il clima di cortesia e gentilezza che si avverte nel reparto di Anestesia e Rianimazione, favorendo l'instaurarsi di un rapporto amichevole fra parenti e personale medico e paramedico.

Ricorda con particolare emozione il momento delle dimissioni della moglie, la mattina del giovedì 7 marzo dopo un periodo di circa 4 settimane, con il saluto del Prof. David e dei suoi collaboratori verso i quali sente un forte legame.

I Sig.ri Wood sono tornati nel loro paese, dove li attendeva un'ambulanza per condurre la Sig.ra Margaret all'ICU della Lincoln County Hospital. La mattina seguente insieme alle loro figlie si sono incontrati con un medico che ha spiegato loro tutti i dettagli del quadro clinico. Dopo alcuni giorni la Sig.ra Margaret, confortata da tutta la famiglia, si è spenta serenamente.

**Da:** Alan D Wood <[alandwood20@gmail.com](mailto:alandwood20@gmail.com)>

**Data:** 13 marzo 2019 23:23:53 CET

**A:** [davida@unime.it](mailto:davida@unime.it)

**Oggetto:** Margaret Wood

Dear Prof. David

As you know, my wife and I, chose Sicily to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary at a luxury hotel. We had a lovely first day together and a fabulous meal at Donna Carmela hotel and went to bed happy. Unfortunately the situation changed in the early hours of the following morning and what became, undoubtedly, the biggest trauma of our lives. I first met you not long after this event and immediately recognised your dedication and professionalism in your job with a quest to do everything that you could possibly do to help Margaret. It is true that my Italian language skills were almost zero but with your English knowledge and the assistance of Grace, the owner of the Igranai bed and breakfast, you managed to keep me fully briefed on Margaret's situation.

Over the following 3+ weeks I visited the hospital twice daily looking for some hope that Margaret would improve. I became familiar with the ward staff who were very efficient at their work and extremely caring with a compassionate understanding and kindness shown to me. There may have been a communication problem but somehow they understood me and offered help where they could. It is true that I was on a steep learning curve to improve my communications and soon discovered the aid of Google translate on my mobile phone, which caused some concern on one occasion, when it was thought that I was on the phone in the ward!

My time in the waiting room developed into conversations with other patients families. All of us in similar stressful periods of our lives the bond was built and many of them have now become friends who communicate with the aid of WhatsApp, a tool that became the 'lifeline' to my family in the UK.

On the morning of Thursday 7th March when the much awaited medical evacuation team arrived for Margaret, it was a very emotional time to say goodbye to you and all the hospital staff, clearly we had become closely attached. I do not know how I could ever repay such kindness, thank you very much.

Margaret had as smooth a journey as she could have possibly had back the UK, arriving at our local airport to met by an ambulance which took her to Lincoln County Hospital ICU. I followed by EasyJet flight to Manchester where I was met by one of our daughters

with my car. We drove first to our home and after getting washed and changed went straight to the hospital in the early hours of Friday, where we met with our eldest daughter. It was the first time in more than one month that we had been together again as a family unit. In the morning we met with the Consultant Doctor who interviewed us and explained all the details directly to us in our own language, there was no misunderstanding.

Over the weekend our daughters and myself were with Margaret and her brother and sister also travelled to see her. I was with her on Sunday evening when she was sleeping, unfortunately she did not wake up on Monday. Margaret passed away peacefully in the early hours of Monday morning.

I am very grateful to you and all the Messina Hospital staff, the people of Sicily for your kindness shown to Margaret and myself, it is people like you who make the world a better place .. simple human kindness.

Yours sincerely,

Alan

