[details to be considered during the substantive stages of the Inquiry's investigations]

COMMEMORATIVE ACOUNT OF LUKE JOHNSON

Luke was our first born child in September 1980, we were very young at 19 years old but we were very much in love, Luke was a beautiful baby and was adored by his grandparents And special to them as the first Grandchild.

Luke enjoyed early school life and was loved by his 3 younger brothers, he was very intelligent and capable of any given task, he could swim like a fish and was a lifeguard at 15

(he lied about his age to prove he could do it) and passed !!

When he was 16 he was working part time in a garage servicing and fitting gearboxes at weekends which he loved

Luke loved chemistry at school and really understood it.

He enjoyed photography, and left secondary school with 7 GCSC's

At 18 he was a judo Black Belt and went on to teach this in local schools full time On his motorbike, which he drove frightfully fast !!and loved this as well .

He was always tinkering with something, never bored loved the company of lots of friends And family.

But for us at 16 things changed because Luke who had never smoked discovered cannabis which would become life changing for him , Luke was unfortunately one of the people badly affected by this drug , he sadly by the age of 21 had his first admission to a mental health unit . He wasn't a party going bad boy , he just took the wrong path with cannabis and then

Other drugs followed.

Happy times were few and far between for the next 13 years, repeated admissions for his mental health, followed by begging and then prison.

Luke was sentenced to 8 months for taking a screwdriver to someone's front door , he didn't touch the door but bottled out of attempting to enter dropped the screwdriver and Left , he was on a lot of drugs both prescription and street drugs .

His sentence basically wrecked him and he wasn't fit to serve the sentence for over 10 months

He served his time in the hospital wing because he was so unwell and they kept him in By mistake for an extra 6 weeks with Luke protesting that he should be released but they didn't listen, upon discovery of their terrible error they threw him out , he was dead within a week .

We often reflect on how we could have done things differently or better, but we know this is grief. We think of Luke every day and know that he was unable to cope with life on his own.

There is no more pain for him which was the worst thing of all to watch him suffer. Love you always Luke

Mum and dad

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