

Sophie and Rodney's Story

Name of service: Locala's Community Nursing Network Team for End of Life care

Main purpose of service: Locala Community Nurses work closely with GPs, The Kirkwood's Palliative Care Nurses and home carers to deliver individualised end of life care at the patient's home.



About Sophie and Rodney:

Locala's Patient Engagement Team spoke to Sophie about her experience using Locala services for the first time. Sophie's Dad Rodney is 78 years old and lives in Kirklees.

Rodney was initially diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2014.

Sophie told us about her dad, and how he has always been a big character and loves being around people. However, over the last few months Rodney started to feel isolated and lonely as he became prone to falls which meant he was spending a lot of time in his flat. Sophie, who works in the Army and lives in York, was visiting as much as possible, but was worrying about her dad's wellbeing daily.

Locala's care:

Rodney experienced a fall which left Sophie worried for his safety and a need for more support from carers. A referral was made to the Locala team, and Sam Elsworth (Locala's Clinical Lead for End of Life care) visited Rodney in his home on the same day.

Sophie said, **"Sam was amazing, she listened to us. His pride and dignity are most important to him and that was respected. Sam fast-tracked Dad, and in just over a week he was in a care home that he absolutely loves. Sam recommended a care home but made sure we were both happy with it before making the referral. Everything has been so fast – rapid! I couldn't believe it. I know my dad is safe now."**

Locala's impact:

Sophie explained that before Sam's involvement, Rodney was feeling lonely and isolated in his flat, but now he is so happy as he is around people every day. He joins in with all the activities and the staff in the care home are brilliant.

"Dads got so much more life in him."

"I feel like I have quality time with my dad now, I can be his daughter and not just his carer. It's like a big weight has been lifted off my shoulder knowing he is safe, and he has carers around him 24/7. I can't thank Sam enough."

Improvements:

When we asked Sophie if there is anything Locala could've done better, Sophie said no, nothing at all. Sophie expressed how grateful she is for Locala's support, and how friendly everyone has been, including the Community Health and Social Care Hub.