

eGlimpse #185 — December 2021 Paul & Kathleen Humphreys

"There will be Someone with me."

T he ministry focus of Peace At Last Ministries (PALM) is one of caring for those facing end-of-life challenges, "the terminally ill, their loved ones and caregivers." This emphasis became very personal last week when we learned that Steve Rosengren, my brother-in-law in Canada, suffered a sudden and massive stroke on December 4th and then entered glory a few days later on December 7th. He was 74 years of age.

In the days that followed his stroke, my family gathered close to provide support and care for Linda, Steve's wife. COVID restrictions prevented my travelling to be there, but we were kept abreast of the situation via phone calls, Messenger, photos and videos.

Our hearts were torn between desiring for Steve to fully recover, to continue in his life journey with Linda. But we also wanted to see his suffering end and send him on his way to glory to be with his Redeemer who he loved. Finally, surrounded by family, both in person and virtually, Steve drew his last breath, peacefully and gloriously.



As a Hospice Chaplain, I witness many deaths. I can personally attest to the remarkable difference between those who die without hope versus those who die in the Lord. Steve's death, hard as it is for us as a family, is a vivid reminder of the truth of scripture that says,

"Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope." 1 Thessalonians 4:13 In the days just before Steve died, my sister was asked about her need for someone to be with her in a particular situation. Linda responded that she would be okay, that,



"There will be Someone with me."

It is this "Someone" who makes all the difference for the believer in Jesus Christ. He never leaves and is never distracted. He promised,

"...I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:20

For sure, this Christmas is marked by sadness for us as a family. Someone is missing. Steve's winsome smile and caring presence are gone. But there is also an acute awareness that, just as Linda expressed, "Someone" is with us. He

promised this and He keeps his promises. And, dear ones, it won't be long before those of us who know Him as Savior and Redeemer, will be together for eternity!

May this hope be yours in abundance this Christmas season and always.

Ever grateful for your prayers and support, Peace At Last Ministries (PALM) Paul and Kathleen

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