

My name is Leslie Batts, My Husband Paul Batts was a healthy 45 yr old hard-working father. He was my son's best friend, football/baseball coach, fishing and hunting partner. 10/1/21 Paul returned from working out of town. By 9:00pm he complained of feeling feverish. 10/4 Paul tested positive for Covid. The following week was low grade fevers, body aches, occasional cough, and typical flu symptoms. By 10/7 I became concerned there may be a secondary bacterial infection and took him to our local urgent care. They gave him azithromycin and suggested a pulse oximeter to watch his O2.

I cared for my mother while in respiratory failure. I'm familiar with respiratory illness and the signs and symptoms associated with it. Paul showed NO acute respiratory distress. He never became cyanotic, no dizziness or confusion. The ONLY indicator of hypoxia was the pulse ox reading. By 10/9 I told him he needed the ER for oxygen. He did not want to go and kept insisting he was fine. I thought the Pulse ox was telling me otherwise. I finally convinced him; he got dressed and got in the car. On arrival I was not allowed in. When the nurse came to get him, he looked at me and said "I love you, DO NOT let them put me on a vent". I said OK but thought how odd it was, it seemed like a ridiculous idea, he wasn't THAT sick.

Our son and I waited. I assumed he would get oxygen and come home. I received a call he was being transferred to ICU in Tulsa, OK. It made no sense. I was texting Paul, on 10L O2 he was at 95% saturation, all his vitals were normal. Notes state Respirations were regular, unlabored, and lungs clear. They sent him by helicopter instead of ambulance "in case he needs intubation"? We made it clear to the ER and ICU he was to be DNI. He was admitted at 11:59pm on 10/9. Stable on 10L nasal Oxygen yet immediately placed on 60L Airvo at 100% FIO2.

At 4:20am on 10/11, without our knowledge he was started on Precedex and Morphine without explanation. His IV was outside of his room; he could not see what was being administered. At 12:40 pm I received my last communication from my husband. A text message "they keep asking me about incubation (intubation) I'm about to lose my cool". At the same time, I receive a call "Mrs. Batts?", "I hope you're vaccinated because your husband is going on a vent, IF he survives SOMEONE needs to be alive to take care of him." I said I was coming to get him and was told I would be arrested if I tried.

10/12 1:07pm a call asking for consent to put Paul on a vent. I refused and the doctor continued pressuring, saying he consented. I hadn't spoken to Paul in 24 hours and I didn't believe him. 1:13pm a video call to Paul's phone, he was wearing the Bipap. He was not in respiratory distress but I could not understand him due to the mask. The video call lasted 31 secs and was disconnected. The doctor called again at 1:21 pm and argued for 12 minutes, I would NOT give consent and clearly Paul could have signed. 1:33pm I gave my final refusal and at 1:35 the sedative and paralytic were administered that put my husband into respiratory arrest. He was intubated at 1:42pm

No consent form on record, no code was called.

On 10/16 the records indicate Paul woke and pulled out his ET tube and had to be re-intubated. This resulted in severe lung injury and multiple unexplained bruises and lacerations. An excessive sedation goal was ordered until his brain activity reached zero. I was never informed.

Less than 10 days in ICU, Paul was pronounced dead at 12:43pm October 20, 2021.