

My name is Patricia Madeira. I am the widow of Charles Madeira. We were together 34 yrs before he died in Oct. 2021. We are a big blended family of five boys and one girl. Five grandchildren were born before he died and seven more were born afterward.

Charles Madeira was a loving husband and an amazing father. Our daughter called him the sun in our family galaxy. He was 68 yrs old when he died from the hospital covid protocols on Oct. 24, 2021. He was healthy most of his life but in 2019 and 2020 he survived 2 life threatening health events - encephalitis and then a thoracic aortic dissection (with a subsequent below the knee amputation caused by a clot thrown during the dissection repair). In 2021, Charles was on the road to recovery. He had built up his arm strength and was doing all the chair transfers by himself. He was practicing walking with his prosthesis. He continued to have a strong will to live.

Charles was diagnosed with covid-19 on Sept. 13 after experiencing flu like symptoms. On Sept. 15 we went to Delnor Hospital in Geneva IL for a monoclonal antibodies infusion. They would not give it to Charles because his blood oxygen level was in the 70's. They took him to the ER and he was admitted to the ICU after a few hours. Initially he was on oxygen and was receiving IV steroids and antibiotics. His blood oxygen levels came back up a level of 94. He was started on Remdesivir and Baricitinib. I was told later they stopped the Baricitinib after two days. At no point were we informed of adverse effects of Remdesivir. On Sept. 17, he was feeling better but on Sept. 19, he had to be intubated. I pleaded with various doctors to give Charles high dose vitamins (C, D, zinc) but was told it "wasn't in the literature". When I quoted the literature that recommended these vitamins, I was told "it wasn't protocol". Two days before Charles was intubated I was contacted by a palliative doctor and social worker who wanted to ask about Charles' goals. I replied his goals were to dance at our 3 youngest kids' weddings in 2022 and walk his baby girl down the aisle. They pressed me and asked what if his goals changed. I stated his goals wouldn't change as he loved us all and wanted to live. After intubation Charles was sedated and restrained because he kept trying to pull out the tube.

On Oct. 3 a chest tube had to be inserted into one of his lungs. On Oct. 5 the intubation was swapped with a trach and a feeding tube. It was then the doctor saw a "medium sized" hole in his esophagus. I asked if the hole was caused by the initial intubation because Charles had a huge gag reflex (even going to the dentist for a cleaning was almost impossible). I was told the doctor who did it was a "straight shooter". He could not be fed via the feeding tube due to this hole.

On Oct. 13 a stent was inserted with metallic clips to cover the esophageal hole. He was getting breathing tests every few days to try to wean him off the vent. I kept begging to be able to visit him because I knew that would lessen his stress (I was denied). He was extremely claustrophobic and was stressed during the breathing tests. On Oct. 19, I was told he had a new infection. The next day his kidneys started to fail and he was put on dialysis. I asked if the kidney failure was due to the Remdesivir but didn't get a straight answer. Charles died alone on Oct. 24.