

Sue

End of life and planning ahead

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She mentioned palliative care then. I mean, amazing, really. Having read about it, I knew it was terminal. I knew it was not going to be easy. So I just took it on the head and got on with it.

I was a bit gobsmacked, but then I admired her for having the courage to say, and I preferred it come from someone I knew I liked, than anyone else.

Their 'in' word is 'futurise'. I hate that word. They are doing their job, trying to make you plan for the future. But I mean, in my position, I live by the day, not looking forward.

It's a lot like planning to go on holiday. It's, you know, I think it's really hard to think ahead. But I do understand why they do it.

I think I've got to say I was being really selfish, not thinking ahead. I told my doctor at the hospital – I do like her – she told me I was being bloody minded. I thought I'd better try and do a bit. But I don't like it, but I do do it.

When you go to the hospice usually there are four other people in there. So it's a bit like a job interview. But when they all get on you, I know I'm not losing the matter. I do try and do what I'm told.

I see it as a challenge, but I do respect what they're doing. But, you know, it's a kind of balance, really. I need to live my life as I want. But I know they have a job to do, so, you know, it's a two-way process.

They want the best for me. And also they've seen other people on the journey, so they know what is ahead.

We have a banter now, so, yeah, I know it's two-way. They admit now they can see what I'm doing works for me. It might not work for everyone.

I've lost my former respect form. It's got mislaid. I know I've got to do that. But end of life, it is what it is. So I'd rather not spend my time thinking about it.

My friend, Judy, who is my power of attorney for medical, I know we talk about what I don't want. I trust her and she would do what is best for me.

I know Judy, and unfortunately her son died early, so I know Judy is really good and been through it with her son. So I trust her and will talk to her. She knows me and what I'm like.

So she would do whatever she thinks is best for me.