

Re: Contemplating cause of death

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From: Dr. Andrew B. Chung, MD/PhD (andrew_at_heartmdphd.com)

Date: 08/20/04

Date: Thu, 19 Aug 2004 23:32:05 -0400

Del Shannon wrote:

>
> *"Dr. Andrew B. Chung, MD/PhD" <andrew@heartmdphd.com> wrote in message news:<41228AA5.11B9334F@heartmdphd.com>...*
> > *Del Shannon wrote:*
> >
> > > *My elderly mother passed away last year at age 91.*
> >
> > *You have my condolences.*
> >
> > > *The year before she*
> > > *fell three times on the street while walking with me yet managed to*
> > > *get up.*
> >
> > *Uh-oh.*
>
> >
> > *Did she commit suicide?*
>
> *I recall her asking me about some pain medicine she had, how many*
> *times a day she should take to relieve pain. When I found the bottle*
> *in her bedroom dresser drawer sometime later, it was totally empty.*
> *Maybe she used more than she should have? She kept insisting her head*
> *was in pain most of the time. I also noticed she walked with a slight*
> *limp, as she wanted me to have a cane she had to match her height, a*
> *couple months before she died.*
>
> *I also noticed a bruise some inches to the side of her heart. This*
> *was before she passed away.*
>
> >
> > *You've got it.*
>
> *THanks fopr reply.*

You are welcome :-)

All praises belong to my heavenly Father, whom I love with all my heart, soul, and mind.

> *THis is what I've been seeking. I have given it*
> *some thought last year and recently it came back to me.*
>
> >
> > > *Is 91 really a good age to die or*
> > > *could she*
> > > *she have lived longer?*
> >
> > *She lived longer than the average lifespan of a woman in the U.S. so that*
> > *one would tend to believe that your mother was in near-optimal health most*
> > *of her life.*
>
> *She was European-born.*

Comparable.

> > > *Was it their falls during the last year of*
> > > *her life*
> > > *which brought about her demise?*
> >
> > *They may have been signs of cardiovascular instability rather than the*
> > *proximate cause of death.*
>
> *Also, I recall there was a period of time I did not see her in July*
> *2002.*
> *When I came in to visdit her, her TV was on full-blast and claimed to*
> *have*
> *lost her hearing for a little while. Maybe due to stress since she*
> *had not*
> *seen me?*

Stress is not known to cause deafness.

> > *You will be in my prayers, dear neighbor whom I love.*
>
> *Cardiovascular instabilty? Caused by what? Not taking heart meds all*
> *these*
> *years.*

Possibly.

> *My sister passed away in 1996 at age 56, which made her not*
> *herself*
> *for a period of time. She did not attend the funeral, though she*
> *covered*
> *the expenses.*
>
> *Believe me, I pleaded with her to see a doctor when I thought she*

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- > *couldn't hear well or heard noise she insisted were there when I*
- > *never heard any.*
- > *Is it loneliness that killed her?*

Loneliness is not a cause of death.

- > *Her landlord made some insinuations that she may have developed an*
- > *early*
- > *case of Alzheimer's? Is this possible?*

You describe something that could be ascribed to some kind of dementia.

- > *Thanks again.*

You are welcome :-)

Servant to the humblest person in the universe,

Andrew

--

Dr. Andrew B. Chung, MD/PhD
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