

## ***Ingrid Grice – my sister ... an absolute hero***

Hello, my sister got MG at puberty when she was about 13 or 14. This was about 50 years ago when I was a small child. She had to have her thymus out which made her back to normal for a few months then it came back again. She had a very severe case and could not move her eyeballs, not blink, not swallow anything but coffee tea and very liquid food, could not talk well, was very very thin and generally it affected her whole body.

She lived with it for about 40 years or more and she had many, many crises in her life, one of which her doctor came to see her (she had had flu) and he told my mother she was dead. He gave her heparin and heart massage etc. and got a pulse back. That particular crisis was written as an article in the British Medical Journal. She lived a long time but she was sooooo determined, she looked after my mother when my mother died of cancer, did all the housework with no central heating, no washing machine etc. Had to hold her eyelid open to see where she had to scrub the clothes when washing them. In short she was an absolute hero. Weight about 40 kilos (88 lbs.). She was on Prostigmine but if she was ill they didn't work so well, had to take them on an empty stomach before she had the strength to get out of bed but then was very sick after taking tabs on an empty stomach. Was on a respirator many, many times.

She eventually died after she looked after my father, who had the stomach flu. She eventually got the stomach flu which led to her death.

A woman with the most strength I have ever seen. Never ever complained and did everything for the family, she took over the role of mother to the rest of the family when my mother died.

When she was young she wanted to be a doctor, very intelligent and was beautiful (inside and out), a caring character.

Funny thing is ... my son's mother in law has just been diagnosed with it. She is about 60 years old ....not in the same blood family but in the family by marriage....the odds of that are infinitesimal !!!!

At least the mother in law has had a normal life for 60 years, holidays, boyfriends, husband, children ... my sister had none of this, could never go out of the house because of her tiredness and muscle weakness. Life is not fair at all.

*Ingrid*

P.S. English but living in Holland now.