



**Ken Stiffler - Husband - Father - Brother - Friend To All**

Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide support testimony for HB 236; the “Never Alone Act.”

My husband Ken Stiffler, age 63, suffered from Covid symptoms in September of 2021. He was a husband of 36 years, founder of our small business, father of 2, and well respected in our community. He is missed immensely!

After several days of illness, Ken’s oxygen levels fell too much and we took him to Wooster Community Hospital-reluctantly **as he was not able to get Ivermectin or Hydroxychloriquin locally which are safe, FDA approved medications.**

Once at the hospital Ken was started on a medicine we did not know the dangers of nor were we informed of any dangers-especially for a diabetic which Ken was Type 2 Diabetic.

They started the dangerous Remdesivere drug soon after he got in the Wooster hospital a day after being admitted. This drug was pumped through his bloodstream every day until he died eight days later as it flooded water through every organ. He got progressively worse but the hospital did not offer any other alternatives. We later learned this drug should have never been given to a Diabetic person.

We learned that Ivermectin was an NIH protocol and suggested to the hospital that he be given it. They denied it.

They never let us try any other option to help him. The hospital had a track record of using the dangerous drug Remdesivere causing death, but still continued to use it.

We later found out that the hospital would get paid alot of money from Medicare to administer the dangerous Remdesivere drug if the patient died of Covid and continued to use it on every Covid patient. **This should have never happened!!!!**

My husband's life could have been saved if only our constitutional rights were allowed.

Also due to Ohio law, patients had no rights in a hospital, and hospitals were actually exempt from any liability due to dangerous drugs they were giving.

Patients and immediate family should also be assigned a patient advocate any time they are admitted into a hospital for **any** reason and be given **full disclosure** about any medication that could or will be administered. We were not given that privilege.

**I am very concerned and agree that Ohioans need the ability to access any legal, FDA approved medication for any future pandemic, seasonal infection or other illnesses that may require a treatment that is not traditionally used for that purpose.**

Thank you for your time to understand what my husband and family had to endure at the Wooster Community Hospital in September of 2021.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Stiffler