

This is my letter to the NYTimes that was printed in the Times on June 4th in response to a front page article from the previous Sunday. The article was about a terminally ill Canadian man's death by lethal injection.

To the Editor:

I read about John Shield's last days with particular interest because my husband, Norman Lindsey, passed away in a hospice on May 19. The words of Mr. Shield's doctor, Stefanie Green, were particularly poignant for me. She said, "Give people good information and let them do what they think is best for their family."

We did not have that choice. I feel nothing but resentment and anger toward those in the Connecticut Legislature who think it their right to prevent us from choosing how to end our life once told that we have a terminal illness with less than six months to live. Norman had lung disease, and I watched this lovely, vigorous, intelligent man lose his ability to walk even a few steps, use the bathroom, breathe without the aid of oxygen, read, eat, drink and speak.

As a woman cited in your article asked, "Who owns my life?"

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