



LIVE
WEBINAR
SERIES

End of Life SYMPOSIUM

Patient Perspectives on Medical Aid in Dying

What is Medical Aid in Dying?



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Donna Smith, JD

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Panelists



Tom Whaley
California



Stella Dawson-Klein, MA
Washington, D.C.

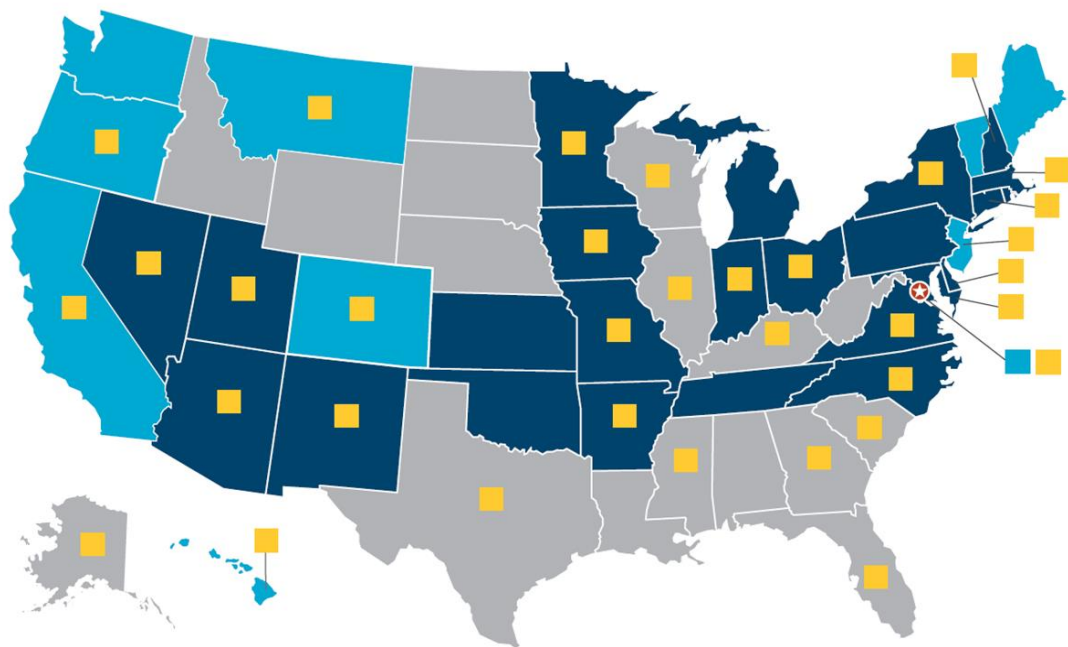


Wendy Engelmann, MA
Colorado

Eligibility Requirements

- State resident
- 18 years or older
- Terminally ill with a prognosis of 6 months or less to live
- Capable of making medical decisions
- Ability to self ingest





- Medical Aid in Dying Authorized
- States With Compassion & Choices' Organized Volunteer Efforts
- States With Medical Aid-in-Dying Legislation in 2018/2019



of Americans
support medical
aid in dying

*Gallup Poll, May 2018



Over 1 in 5

now have access to this
end-of-life option as a
result of the work of
groups like Compassion
& Choices and advocates
across the country



Find out more about how Compassion & Choices is
working in your state to advance medical aid in dying.
CompassionAndChoices.org/in-your-state

Tom Whaley

Christine Whaley 1975-2018





*“She had fought so hard to live,
we couldn’t believe that she then had to fight to die.”*

~ Tom Whaley, husband of Christine Whaley











Stella Dawson-Klein

Mary Klein 1947-2018



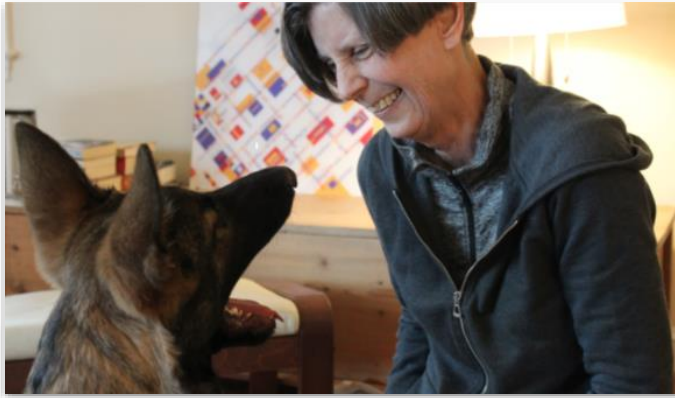


***In the emergency room, nine months into our journey.
(June 2015)***



*"I don't want to die.
I am doing everything in
my power to live.
It is the cancer that
is killing me."*

The day of Mary's
surgery, we learned my
niece was expecting.
Mary was determined to
meet Lucas.



Mary did everything to stay alive, including adopting a puppy that brought her tons of joy.

Six weeks before she died, Mary placed in a dog competition.



Mary, a very private person, became the reluctant face of DC's Death With Dignity Campaign.



DC | **HEALTH**

GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

**REQUEST FOR MEDICATION
TO END MY LIFE IN A HUMANE AND PEACEFUL MANNER**

I, MARY

First (Please Print)

LOUISE

Middle

DAWSON

KLEIN

Last

am an adult of sound

I am suffering from OVARIAN CANCER, which my attending physician has determined is
terminal disease and which has been medically confirmed by a consulting physician.

I have been fully informed of my diagnosis, the nature of medication to be prescribed and potential associated risks,
the expected result, and feasible alternatives, including comfort care, hospice care, and pain control.

I request that my attending physician prescribe medication that will end my life in a humane and peaceful manner.

Initial One

☒ MK

☐

☐

I have informed my family of my decision and taken their opinion into
I have decided not to inform my family of my decision
I have no family to inform of my decision

I understand that I have the right to
I understand that I have the right to

Last months



What I learned

- Respect your patient. Allow them some control at the end of life.
- Medical institutions - adopt clear guidelines for doctors.
- Pharmacies - make a list of participating ones.
- Hospices - discuss end-of-life options.
- Doctors - discuss how the medication works with the family.



XXXXX

Wendy Engelman

Virginia Smith 1945-2019





Brain surgery was necessary to determine Mom's diagnosis.

Surgery was performed on Christmas eve, 2018 and she was diagnosed with glioblastoma.







Be a speed bump, not a roadblock.



Please.