

Frank is a pleasant 73-year-old male who has metastatic prostate cancer.

Frank is aware that he will not survive his cancer, indicating that he has been given a prognosis of 6 – 7 months. He has been thinking about his departure and stated he is not afraid of death. However, he expressed concerns about the process of dying. Frank shared that he is married to a wonderful woman, who he described as extremely bright and spectacular for him (he smiled brightly and proudly as he reflected about her). He stated that he and his wife have been doing what they can to “fix the chaos” during this difficult time. He elaborated that they are approaching things right now like the Japanese art of Kintsugi, which mends broken pieces of pottery with gold to create new beauty.

Frank is a physician who, until very recently, practiced in the rural countryside as a family medicine doctor. Unfortunately, due to the progression of his illness, he is not able to tolerate the environment or be in contact with his patients. While this is an important professional identity for him, his true passion lies in playing chess. In his 20s, prior to becoming a physician, Frank was a professional chess player for over 15 years, describing himself as excellent. He won many prizes and had a very high ELO rating in the sport. He now plays for fun.

Frank has two sons and one grandson. His grandson, John, is 5 years old and was described as very bright. Frank is trying to prepare for his death by “planting the seeds of the future now.” Currently, he is creating a meaningful legacy within his family by teaching his grandson how to play chess.