## Palliative and Supportive Care

# What he wanted?

#### cambridge.org/pax

Kevin R. Criswell, PH.D.

### **Poetry**

Cite this article: Criswell KR (2019). What he wanted? *Palliative and Supportive Care* **17**, 125. https://doi.org/10.1017/S1478951518000123

Received: 6 February 2018 Revised: 27 February 2018 Accepted: 14 March 2018

#### **Author for correspondence:**

Kevin R. Criswell, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, 195 Little Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. E-mail: krc125@cinj.rutgers.edu What he wanted
Is a legacy of love.
Our heads haunted...
He approaches eternity above.

Eyes of pain, doubt, guilt...
But lives touched by love,
Desperately wanting to show love
To a man who built, but now wilts.

Is it what he would want? Is it what we would want? We want him, please... But we want him at ease.

How do we know? No instructions left to us. How do we know? Our patriarch depends on us.

We, a family, must decide. Each of us knowing, Each of us showing, How we know what he'd decide.

Time is up, Our decisions made. How he approaches the end And how his legacy is laid.

© Cambridge University Press 2018

