



To my nephew George Gary McDonald

May you finally get to Rest in Peace – December 17, 1987 to April 4, 2016

For the past three (3+) years, we have waited for this moment for your dad to be cleared of any wrong doing, so we could

person. When your parents called for help that night three (3) times, there was no help; the on-site defibrillator was not working properly, there were no trained medical staff to assist, the resuscitation efforts of 30+ minutes could not revive you. Your dad asked that the resuscitation efforts not be stopped. All of the things that could go wrong, did go wrong.

properly mourn your passing and allow your spirit to be free.

Nobody speaks of the good you have done or your potential if you had the right support and help to navigate the system to help you with your personal challenges.

It seems like only yesterday when I saw you smiling, telling me what you were up to. Little did I know that would be the last time I would see you and get one of those big bear hugs.

I don't believe there is a day that goes by where your **parents** wish they could turn back time, that haunting thought of reliving the past, wishing we could make changes based on what we know now.

Our family has experienced one of the most horrific claims of injustice:

Your father could not attend your funeral as he was incarcerated due to the pending charges.

Your sister **Sin** has always maintained diligently that your dad was innocent and this would be proven in a court of law and not in the court of public opinion.

We sat through the trial and listened to the painful testimony of your mother.

Your brother **Rocky** misses you dearly. The closeness of brotherhood will always leave that constant feeling of wishing you were here but now memories will have to fill that void.

Listened to the horrific details of the coroner's report and graphic details of the autopsy.

I pray that **Old Hen**, your Partner in Crime will find peace and know that you could be in no other better place than with our Lord.

It was not reported that the coroner changed his opinion based on the testimony.

We listened and read the media's description of what transpired that night, words that were spoken at the time and more than likely if you read how they sounded I have no doubt you would take them back; we all say things to hurt people.

You were a good **Uncle** to your nieces. Whenever you had the opportunity to spoil them or take care of their needs you stepped up to the challenge.

We knew you were in pain but could not help as we could not access the resources; the system has failed you and probably so many others. When you reached out for help there was none; no referral or resource

Your **Gramma Emily** has always believed your dad was innocent but the judicial process would need to run its course; she never wavered in her belief.

Calvin and Julienne, be the best that you can. Take advantage of all the opportunities presented to you to help you reach your full potential, as your brother and cousin Gary was not able to access.

A big thank you to Aunties: **Violet Doolittle, Ruby and Margaret McDonald and Louise Lennie** who supported our family through this tragic time.

Life is precious – we need to treasure every minute. If we are healthy, surrounded by family and friends, have the ability to do good for others and make a positive contribution to society, this in itself is an accomplishment. It sounds a lot easier to write than to do.

In one way, living through this experience makes one stronger, to strengthen our belief that it was God's plan and we must never question once the decision is made. Strength builds character.

We know this, as you let your mother know you are happy and in a good place, not to worry, surrounded by an intense bright light and the warmth of love.

Thank you to those people who supported our family through words of encouragement and embrace, who never passed judgement and thank you to those who did as it's clear don't be quick to pass judgement on others as it is neither your role nor place.

When all is said and done, I know that you love your parents – full stop.

Now the challenge is to pick up the pieces of our lives and make a positive out of a negative.

You will be in our hearts forever and there will always be a void that can't be filled, until we meet again.

*Lots of Love,
Aunty and
Jewel*

