

Table 3: Identified concepts and associated selected quotations

Concepts		Selected Quotes
Relationships	With the patient	<p>Even if we didn't agree with her decision, prioritizing the quality of our relationship was the most important thing I could do.[23]</p> <p>It is bizarre to stand next to someone who is on a road to death, and longs for death.[41]</p> <p>The fact that she is 85 years old that ... that I managed to get what she wanted, which was MAiD. Um, it was a relief to me.[35]</p>
	With health care providers	<p>I brought it forward almost three different times before he [the family physician] actually gave me the name of somebody to contact[25]</p> <p>We had different needs. There was support, reassurance, sort of sharing of knowledge and strength to give us some comfort. I was very grateful that this was all available to our family[6]</p> <p>*It's those moments when the families aren't on board, when they're struggling... I think a challenge is, how to support family members that are resistant?[33]</p>
Aspects of MAiD Grief	Disclosure & secrecy	<p>I am being careful on who gets to know what really happened and the official version on the people who don't need to know ... I don't want to have any moral debates on it with anyone.[28]</p> <p>Now that a couple of years have passed, only now I'm speaking freely about it, convinced that I would do it again, exactly the same way.[37]</p> <p>I have to respect the promise made to him...of never speaking about it with others in the family... A secret of the family, a good secret.[37]</p>
	Anticipatory grief	<p>In my case anyway, I grieved more before the procedure than after.[27]</p> <p>I also tell people we started grieving the day we found out [about his diagnosis], you know? That was a year-and-a-half-long process [43]</p> <p>You know, it's not a person who suddenly dies, and you feel sad at that moment. It was really something that happened over time.[35]</p>
Preparations	Values & decision-making	<p>It does help you to emotionally to know that you, your belief systems and your loved one's belief systems are not evil.[24]</p> <p>The biggest thing is this contradiction, for me. Not wanting it and yet having to agree with it[26]</p> <p>It's easier to understand or to accept when you're right there and you know somebody's made this choice to go... the fact that somebody has the opportunity to have control when they basically had no control is probably the most important thing, for the family, for the individual.[43]</p>
	Logistics & arrangements	<p>It's so bizarre, you know, can we book an appointment for Friday? And so the rest of that week was – oh this is the last time we're going to do this...[23]</p> <p>Once someone has made that decision, it's hurtful to put them through a process that's difficult or feels like you're putting road blocks up in front of them[27]</p> <p>The more they know the better off the situation is, so it's not so dark. At least there is a bit of light. The more information people have the better we are.[27]</p>
End of Life	Location	<p>I knew there were difficulties in other facilities with people – right as they're dying having to be transported somewhere else... that was pretty stressful[23]</p> <p>All of a sudden, we learned that there were spaces available at [hospice] but that became potentially problematic as they had no policy in place[28]</p>
	Ceremony	<p>Including ritual... because it anchors you in the present... It's hard, you know when you look back after traumatic events or difficult events it's hard to remember[23]</p> <p>That's one of the most beautiful opportunities because, when you know the certainty of this, you can go through that checklist and cover off your bases... I'm talking about my mom sitting down with my children having a tearful but loving conversation and say goodbye, and that's very powerful.[6]</p>
Aftereffects		<p>It's respectful, it's dignified, it's very peaceful...I'm more than happy to share how beautiful it was[26]</p> <p>Because to think that doing this does not affect the people that are left behind is a freaking joke... And I really believe in my heart, maybe not everybody, but the majority, will never be the same[26]</p> <p>I'm grateful that we were able to have an end date that allowed us to plan our leave-taking...To be more comfortable with the notion of dying and separation.[6]</p>

*Quotation originally from healthcare provider