Fiona

You left us too soon, you still had so much to do ,a life cut short ,a life that was valued and dear to all of us here today.

You touched the lives of so many, always ready to give advice but as we all know you were not so keen to take it.

In life you were a maverick ,an independent thinker dancing to your own tune.

A forthright control freak, you conducted the orchestra around you even when you were so ill.

You lived life to the full and gave your all to whatever you set your mind to do.

With a natural affinity for design, you were a creative, artistic person, who loved to share ,you were a true philanthropist with a heart of gold.

Your talents are too many to list, complex and multifaceted, you lived a full and happy life overcoming the pain of losing Michael, you let him go as we must now let you go.

The harsh ravages of illness took its toll upon your body but you had clarity of thought that remained true to your values up until the very end.

There was no compromise to be had in terms of your recovery, kill me or cure me was what you said ,no half measures accepted here.

Dreams of a new and exciting future snatched away from you so cruelly, it was supposed to be your time now.

You had been a carer and now it was your turn to be cared for.

The challenges of losing your fiercely fought independence were clear to be seen but you maintained your dignity to the end, your wishes were voiced loud and clear and although it was hard they were respected.

When I think of you I will remember the happy times when you were walking your dogs on the beach with the wind in your hair, when we were riding our horses in the forest and every time I see a siamese cat I will think of you at home stroking your cats as they clambered to sit on your lap. Wherever you are now I hope you are at peace and reunited with Michael and all those others waiting for you that you have held dear.

Fiona you were my friend and I will miss you.