

170 Billion Spent – And You Still Die

On April 16 - [National Healthcare Decisions Day](#) - consider the following:

- Are you being kept alive just to empty your bank account?
- Who *really* benefits as the elderly/chronically ill extend their lives through extraordinary means?

[TV host Hattie Bryant](#), an authority on palliative care, end-of-life healthcare decision-making and healthcare consumer advocate for seniors, says there is big money in keeping you alive:

- We spend 170 BILLION on the last six months of people's lives - and at the end of that six months, they're all still dead, anyway.
- If you want a gentle death, it's You vs the 3.2 trillion dollar medical industrial complex.
- As many as 1/3 of all medical procedures are unnecessary.
- Hospitals don't have morals—they are balance sheet driven. Hospitals are good at making us suffer for no benefit except convenience and cash for their bottom line.
- Healthcare is not health "care" - it is an industry that only makes money when you consume it. Your health and your wellness are revenue generators. It wants all of you.
- Doctors don't tell us about all of our choices because they make money doing what they do; they have a conflict of interests.
- Doctors also over-treat to avoid being sued... and because it's faster for them.

See below for more information on Hattie Bryant and her book *I'll Have It My Way: Taking Control of End-of-Life Decisions* – **let's talk about interview opportunities!**

About Hattie Bryant: Author, TV host/producer, and palliative care educator and advocate Hattie Bryant's professional career is a reflection of her lifelong passion for learning, teaching and making a difference in the life of others.

Her most recent PBS series, "I'll Have It My Way with Hattie Bryant," is based on her palliative advocacy. It is aired during pledge drive seasons, with the next airing anticipated in March 2018.

Before her focus on end-of-life healthcare decision-making, Hattie, along with her husband, produced the television series *Small Business School*. The series, airing from 1994-2012, featured business owners from across the globe; over 300 half-hour episodes were seen in U.S. homes via some 250 PBS member stations and globally on 1000 affiliates through Voice of America-TV. In 1997 she was given the Award of Excellence from the White House for her success in bringing the story of small business to television. Content from the show was edited into video companions for fifty college textbooks and an online learning tool.

About the Book: *I'll Have It My Way* is a tool for patients and their families to minimize, if not avoid entirely the pain, suffering, confusion and disagreements that can arise when their

end-of-life healthcare wishes are not clearly spelled out and known in advance. The book makes it clear that no one is required to passively delegate death to a system that insists upon surgery, stents, chemotherapy, blood transfusions, radiation, infusions and all of the tubes, bags and lines which accompany these interventions. Practical, informative and written in laypersons terms, *I'll Have It My Way* is a how-to book made personal as it answers questions that will help readers select a proxy, and to provide friends and family with a few simple instructions and wishes. Every person who wants to direct their own health care all the way to the end will benefit from this book.

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