

Sarah Pinninty is one of Valerie Hooke's grand-daughters. Shortly after her granny died she wrote:

*I spent Saturday and Sunday with her. My Dad was still unwell today but made it in to see her just before she passed away along with other family members who had made journeys to be with her today.*

*I had many precious moments with her; she was struggling for every breath when I got to the hospital on Saturday morning but after an hour she managed to say, 'When I was 15, I was confirmed, (long pause) and the vicar said to me (pause) 'keep on keeping on'.'*

*She really tried her best to 'keep on keeping on', but was clearly gaining more awareness that this was her time. She prayed for all of us as a family - Sundar and I, and Timmy, Isaac and Ethan who were with us; Isaac had made her a beautiful cross to hold and Ethan had coloured a card for her, both of which received warm beaming smiles.*

*She was weak and exhausted and yesterday afternoon, after I read her a passage from Ephesians and prayed for her, she told Timmy and I, ever so softly but with great meaning, "in the last two days, I have had a revelation, of how much, we depend on Jesus, when we die."*

*And she began praying and thanking God for forgiveness of sins, and though every breath was an effort said "Take me Lord. Wake me up.., to see.., George (her husband/my grandfather), and my Mum (who died when she was a child aged 10), Joe and Vera (close Christian friends), and, maybe... Moses(!), then she drifted off.*

*About 15 minutes later she roused and uttered in perplexed tones, "I can't be dead, I'm still breathing!" It was a true moment I'll never forget. She faced death with such courage, faith and gentleness, and somehow I felt so close to eternity with her. What a hope we have in Jesus.*

At the funeral Sarah shared these moments with everyone.