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My medical career started as an EMT in Deer Isle/Stonington, progressed to paramedic and then nurse. Over these 35 years I have witnessed people at the end of their lives lose control over their final days -- often kept alive when they would've wanted to die. Very recently a friend chose to end his bout with pancreatic cancer. The day he had had enough, he was still able to walk and think but he'd reached the point where life was pointless -- he was on the cusp of having his every minute focused on symptom control. The current Death with Dignity protocol involved too many steps and too much time for that to be an option. Besides, try getting all those appointments considering our shortage at all levels in the medical system. So he took matters into his own hands, and although he was successful, it took a few ugly days. I know of others who did something similar. Please give people who are clearly out of options in every other way the option to end their misery more expediently.