

"A casualty of life"

Page 1.

As I looked at the communication folder in my office for the day
I heard the staff outside and one of them was heard to say
Today we have a new admission coming, a casualty of life;
So young to come to aged care, so young to know such strife
Another staff member was heard to say, no matter what we'll look after him and give the best of
care
And hopefully in time his story the family will share.
It wasn't long before he arrived this young man a casualty of life,
He couldn't speak, just stared and looked around,
The feeding tube was evident and pressure areas were found.
The staff attended and settled our new resident in and everyone was touched by the sight of such a
young man and the situation he found himself in.
We knew the road ahead was long
We also knew he was strong
Trying to communicate
Responding to word and song
And then the day came when a thumb was raised indicating all was good
The staff was so excited, of course and so they should,
His family were supportive, visited every day.
Encouraged him and worked with him every step of the way.
Improvements grew, pressure areas healed,
Words began to form, his progress was amazing,
He weathered every storm
The biggest step was food and feeding, gradually assessed and reintroduced,
A favourite thickened orange juice.
The biggest celebration was just a step away we all remember very well what happened on that day,

The PEG tube was no longer needed and so out it came such joy
And life became quite normal for this young man, a casualty of life.
In time with life improving every single day
The young man we had nursed so long would finally say hooray,
He moved to a more age appropriate place and his long journey we all shared
And best of all and in our hearts we all sincerely cared.
This young man fought the battles and overcame the strife.
And became a great survivor in this battle we call life.