

## **THE LAST DANCE IS FOR CLAIRE**

*“You don’t realise until you’re in Cransley, how important it is”.* These are the words from loving husband and Dad - Mick Massey.

Mick’s wife Claire was “bubbly and fun, she was awesome and amazing” which is why Mick wanted to put himself physically and mentally to the test in her memory and raise money for those that cared for her by tackling the toughest dance of all, “The Fan Dance” in the Welsh mountains.

Born and brought up in Woodford, Mick was 30 when he met his lovely wife Claire 26 in Irthlingborough where they married and brought up their son Mason.

It was July 2018 when Mick received an urgent phone call whilst he was on tour with the RAF reserves in Romania. Claire had found a lump in her breast and Mick was flown straight back to be with her and Mason.

Mick said “Claire was doing really well with the treatment at first. But then it spread to her hip and her liver and then to the back of her eye. The Doctors were no longer able to treat it and in November 2019, “fun loving” Claire lost her sight.

“Despite her blindness, Claire got to know all the nurses by their voices and they all took a shine to her, everybody did – she was the best.

“All the staff were fantastic. I can’t praise them enough. Claire was the patient, but they still made time for me and Mason, always putting us at ease. They helped make a bed up in her room so that I could be there with her and they would always come and see us to check that we were doing ok.

“She was only 50 when she died on 11<sup>th</sup> March in 2020. She had always been healthy - never even smoked.

“After she passed away it was tough, but Mason and I tried to get on with it as best we could. Perhaps that’s the army training?”

To support Mick and his team in memory of Claire please their fundraising page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/claire-dave-in-memory>