

Highly Recommended

Book Review ...

'Without Due Care – an Australian Hospital Tragedy'

Medical negligence is a subject that no one wants to talk about, until it happens to them.

Without Due Care, was recently launched at NSW Parliament House and relates the story of Don Mackay, a quadriplegic husband and father from Port Macquarie, who needlessly died at the hands of the NSW Health Care System.

According to Lorraine Long from the Medial Error Action Group, "This is an account of a loving family's plight and fight for justice." When a loved one dies from their medical treatment, it is human nature to want an explanation. We expect statutory authorities to act."

Therese Mackay, in demanding answers to what went wrong with her late husband Don's care and treatment in a major Sydney public hospital that led to his unnecessary death, was blocked by authorities and confronted by institutionalised indifference.

Without Due Care, is a disturbing story of mistreatment by health care system that at times is unaccountable. This is not a fictional

story; it is the frighteningly real and harrowing account of how tenuous a person's life can be when

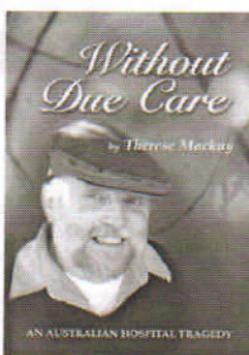
placed in the hands of others.

Iatrogenesis - injury or death originating from a physician's treatment – is an increasing area of concern in our lumbering health care systems. There are still many who deny that such fatalities occur. They use statistics and jargon to avoid the truth.

"The operation was a success, but the patient died." It was once considered a joke. Doctors and hospitals simply buried their mistakes. However, it is not a joke when the situation hits close to home.

Without Due Care – An Australian Hospital Tragedy, was launched by NSW politicians, Andrew Stoner and John Hatton.

It is available from the author, Therese Mackay, for \$27.99 plus \$6.00 postage and handling. Enquiries to PO Box 248, Port Macquarie NSW 2444. It is also available at the Book Warehouse at settlement City, Cover 2 Cover bookstore Wauchope and Rainbows Edge CBD Port Macquarie.



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