

# Worcester News

SIR – In an age where it seems extremely fashionable to criticise the NHS, I can only speak as I find and I cannot fault any of the care and treatment I received throughout my recent pregnancy at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital, and from my community midwife, in any way at all.

Sadly, my baby boy Francesco 'Frankie' Enrico Ventura was stillborn at the hospital on November 29 at 32 weeks, and through what was a very traumatic and upsetting experience the compassion and care given to me and my husband when Frankie was born by the staff on the delivery suite was exemplary.

I would particularly like to thank Rachel Carter, Matron for Midwifery for all her help and support, the Rev David Southall for coming to see us just after Frankie was born, for baptising him and for leading his funeral service and the team of midwives and NHS staff who looked after me so brilliantly during my three days in hospital.

I would also like to thank the Worcestershire Royal Hospital for the use of the Fay Turner Suite, which meant my husband, parents and I had space and time to ourselves away from the main delivery suite to be with our son after he was

born which was invaluable.

If my son had lived he would have been born with a cleft lip and palate, and would have had access to a team of specialists for his condition from the moment he was born. Contrast this to the USA where I read about a woman with a baby girl also born with a cleft lip/palate, and whose insurance company told her they would not cover her daughter's treatment as the policy she had classed this as "cosmetic surgery".

We are so very lucky here in the UK to have access to the NHS, and there should be just as much emphasis if not more on the good treatment and care that it provides.

**LISA VENTURA**  
Worcester

[www.frankieslegacy.co.uk](http://www.frankieslegacy.co.uk)

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