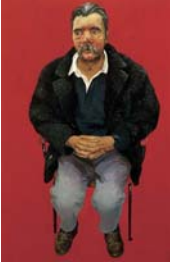


DUDLEY C.



Dudley was a 46-year-old bank manager when he suffered a shotgun injury to his face. This made him blind, shattered his lower jaw, and destroyed his nose, upper jaw, palate, the base of his skull, and part of his brain.

He immediately underwent emergency surgery to save his life, including the insertion of a breathing tube (tracheostomy), the closure of his facial wounds and the sealing of his skull base from the nasal cavity and mouth so that no brain fluid leaked down into this area and no communication remained between the brain and the nose and mouth. Dudley then underwent a second operation in which all the remaining fragments of his lower jaw were replaced and fixed with metal titanium plates.

Two years later, when Mark Gilbert met him, the holes in his face at the top of his nose, the nasal bones themselves, and the upper jaw and palate were reconstructed using bone from the shoulder blade (scapula) and skin from his back. This flap of bone, skin and fat (scapular flap) was kept alive by joining the artery and vein supplying it to branches of the carotid artery and jugular vein in Dudley's neck.

Following this operation Dudley was able to eat, drink, and speak more easily because he no longer had a hole in his palate connecting his mouth with his face. He enjoyed his food for the first time since the injury.

Dudley lived with his wife Elizabeth, and they ran a small business until he died of pneumonia in 2003.