

Nine hours of madness

OCT 5, 2015

With his wife's application for a personal protection order against him set to be heard the next day, Belgian banker Philippe Graffart (left) exchanges several calls and e-mail with his lawyers. He feels stressed.

8.19pm: Graffart searches online for information on how long it takes to suffocate and choke, and if a person can survive a 150kmh crash.

8.30pm: After reading two books to his five-year-old son Keryan in the master bedroom, he lets the boy take a sleeping tablet.

Just after 9pm: Graffart tells his maid he needs privacy. She goes to her room to watch a movie. He writes a letter to his wife saying he has decided to kill himself and asks for forgiveness. He places a cushion over Keryan's head. The boy stops moving. Graffart kisses his son and covers him with a blanket.



10.17pm: He takes his car keys and leaves his Leedon Heights apartment.

10.41pm: While travelling at high speed along the Marina Coastal Expressway, he removes his seatbelt and crashes into a tunnel wall. He is rescued and put under observation at Singapore General Hospital.

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2.25am: He calls the 999 hotline and asks for an officer to meet him. Instead of waiting, he leaves and books a cab to his home.

3.46am: Graffart goes home, stands at the balcony and thinks about jumping. Decides not to.

3.59am: He takes a knife from the kitchen, along with a letter he had written earlier, and walks to the pool. He thinks about stabbing or cutting himself, but does not.

4.19am: Takes a taxi and asks for the nearest police station. He is driven to Bukit Timah Neighbourhood Police Centre.

4.33am: Assistant Superintendent (ASP) Azri Aldrin Lim Teck Guan sees a disorientated Graffart trying to buy a drink from a vending machine with a \$10 note. The officer gives him \$2 and Graffart walks away without collecting the change from the machine. ASP Lim talks to him. He notices cuts and scrapes on the man's arms, and an intravenous drip needle on the right hand. Graffart tells him about the crash and the custody battle. He says: "I have done something bad to my son. I have done something really bad to my son."

5.29am: Police arrive at Graffart's apartment and find Keryan motionless and not breathing. Paramedics pronounce him dead. Graffart is arrested.

