

Tragic end for girl who tried to be a man

LIFE has ended tragically for Pat Barry, the woman who wanted desperately to be a man. Pat, 41, who wore pin-striped suits, smoked cigars, drank pints and even "married" a woman, was found dead in her bedsitter on Friday, the victim of a drug overdose.

By her side was a last letter to her "bride" of two years, Pauline Jenkins.

And Pauline, 25, said at her mother's home in Caerphilly, Glamorgan: "I'm very upset. I didn't know why Pat did it.

"The police took the letter he left. He put all his jewellery in a plastic bag for me.

"There was no question of us splitting up. We had moved in with my mother, but we had a row and Pat moved out to a bedsitter in Cardiff, where I slept twice a week."

The couple met in 1976 and later went through a ceremony in a register office.

Later they were accused in court of making false declarations and were conditionally discharged.

Afterwards they told me that on their "wed-

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ding night" when Pauline discovered there was to be no actual sex, they had a row.

But they stayed together as man and wife with Pauline's young son looking on Pat as a father.

Son

All her life Pat fought to become a man. She had hormone treatment and had her breasts removed and anticipated further sex-change operations.

Pauline told me: "Pat had had a hysterectomy but I don't think he was worried about more operations.

"I was with him on Wednesday and he was quite cheerful."