

In Memoriam



2025/2026



In Memory of...

Shankar Gunaratnam	1
Grace Choong Chui Chui	4
V. Jeevaretnam (Jeevaretnam a/l Valautham)	5
Jason Reginald Gomez	7
Tan Jee Tjun	9
Charles Nicholson	12
Ranjini a/p George Hunt Tharumaratnam	13
Lee See Loon	14
Terence Phillips	16
Chong Juen Quan	18
Dato' Harpal Singh Grewal	20
Razali bin Puyamin	23
Dato' Hanif Bin Hashim	25
Francis Ng Sai Wai	26
Khairuzzaman b Muhammad	28
Joseph a/l Iruthayam	30
Hong Nan Tong	32
Manjeet Singh Dhillon	33
Mohd Kharip Shah Bin Yusof	38
Vitwat Sae Ng	41
Tun Mohamed Dzaidin Hj Abdullah	42



Shankar Gunaratnam

BC/S/632

24 September 1969 – 15 January 2024

**In Loving Memory of Shankar:
A Life Etched in Wisdom, Warmth, and Brilliant Wittiness**

In every lifetime, there are those rare souls who quietly shape the world around them — not through grandeur or fanfare, but through the consistency of character, the sharpness of mind, and the depth of their heart. Shankar was one such soul. A brilliant lawyer, an affectionate elder brother, a loyal friend, and a man whose legacy will continue to inspire long after the echoes of his footsteps have faded.

Born on 24 September 1969, Shankar was the eldest of three siblings. From an early age, there was a strength about him — thoughtful stillness, and a sharp wit that hinted at the man he would become. His journey through life was a testament to purpose, integrity, and a devotion to those he loved.

Shankar's educational roots began at Simpang Lima Primary School, and later at La Salle, Klang. But what defined Shankar was never just formal education. His mind was always hungry — he read voraciously, listened attentively, and pondered deeply. He questioned, challenged, analysed — always with the respect of a true scholar.

Later, at Stamford, where he served as a student counselor, Shankar exhibited early signs of leadership and empathy. Balancing work, life, and self-study, he pursued his dreams with resilience, eventually earning both his LLB and Certificate in Legal Practice — credentials that would become the foundation of a legal career defined by brilliance and grit.

In 1995, he was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya — a moment that marked the beginning of a distinguished legal journey.

The legal profession, found in Shankar a rare gem: a man who could disarm with intellect and charm in equal measure. His career took flight at the prestigious Skrine & Co, where his work ethic, intelligence, and razor-sharp mind earned him the admiration of peers and clients alike. But Shankar wasn't just a lawyer — he was a listener, a strategist, and at times, a quiet confidant to those who needed more than just legal advice.

For the final 12 years of his career, he became a cornerstone at Rose Hussin, leaving a profound impact that extended far beyond legal files and courtrooms. Colleagues speak of

his uncanny ability to deconstruct complex issues and rebuild them with clarity and purpose. He was never one to cut corners; his integrity was unshakeable, his arguments meticulously built, his cross-examinations respectful but firm. Clients trusted him not only for his legal acumen, but for his honesty, discretion, and empathy.

Always dressed impeccably, he carried an air of quiet confidence — his colognes memorable, his presence magnetic. He paid attention to the little things, because he believed details mattered — in the law and in life.

But to reduce Shankar to only his career would be to miss the heart of the man. Behind the sharp suits and legal brilliance lived a vibrant spirit: a lifelong Manchester United fan, an avid comic collector, a lover of music, and a man who believed that a good meal shared with loved ones could fix almost anything.

He had an extraordinary gift in connecting people to joy, to stories, and to laughter. That was Shankar: always giving, always thoughtful.

Despite being known for his sharp temper, it was never cruel. It was the fire of passion, the impatience of a man who expected the best — from himself and others. Beneath that firm exterior was a tender heart, evident in the way he hugged, the way he checked if everyone had eaten, and the way he quietly carried the burdens of others, often without letting them know.

To his family, Shankar was their protector, guide, and occasional sermon-giver (delivered with equal parts humor and love). He played his role with grace, often holding the family together with invisible threads of loyalty and duty and never sought applause for the things he did.

Among his circle of friends, Shankar was the glue. He remembered birthdays, sent updates, made calls. His door was always open, his table always set, and gave with unmatched generosity, his heart always just a little fuller when surrounded by the people he loved.

In the latter part of his life, Shankar faced health challenges that would have shaken even the strongest. Yet he carried his pain with a quiet nobility. He seldom complained, seldom let his discomfort eclipse his warmth. He cracked jokes at hospital bedsides, made sure his work stayed impeccable, and continued to mentor younger lawyers even when his body was growing weary.

That refusal to give in, to let circumstances define him — that was Shankar's true strength. It wasn't just about fighting. It was about enduring with grace, about holding on to joy even when it seemed fleeting. His life was a lesson in fortitude.

One of the enduring lessons Shankar taught — whether through his life, his work, or just casual conversation — was that character matters. That success is hollow if not accompanied by integrity. That strength is more powerful when it is gentle. That joy must be shared. That it's okay to be particular about your scent — and even better if people remember you for it. His life also reminded us of the power of small acts: a good TV show recommendation, a perfectly brewed cup of coffee, the right word at the right time, a warm meal offered with quiet care.

Today, as we remember Shankar, we are reminded not of his last days, but of his many years. Of the lives he touched, the laughter he shared, the principles he lived by. He lived a full life — not because it was long enough, but because it was deep enough. Rich in love, textured in meaning, and lit with moments of brilliance.

He leaves behind a legacy not only of legal accomplishments, but of humanity, loyalty, resilience, and tenderness — often hidden, always present.

As we bid farewell to this remarkable man, let us not simply mourn the void his absence brings. Instead, let us honour him by living fuller, loving deeper, standing firmer, and laughing more freely. Let us embrace one another, as he would have — with warmth, food, humour, and heart.

In the tapestry of our lives, the thread of Shankar's story will always run deep — a testament to a man who stood tall not only because of his achievements, but because of the way he loved and lived.

Rest well, Shankar. Your fight is done, but your story lives on — in our hearts, our homes, and in the echo of every wise, witty word you once shared.

Contributed by Jayanthi Gunaratnam (Sister)

Grace Choong Chui Chui
BC/C/1004
29 August 1965 – 10 January 2024

Ms Grace Choong Chui Chui graduated from the University of London with a Law Degree in 1998. After she obtained her Certificate in Legal Practice, she read in the chambers of Mr Chen Kait Leong of Messrs Abd Aziz Chen & Co. Upon her admission as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2001, Ms Choong practiced law in the same firm.

She subsequently practiced as a legal assistant in the firms of Messrs Arthur Wang Lian & Associates, Messrs Amin-Tan & Co, Messrs Lai Yoong & Rita and Messrs Siong & Rita before setting up her own practice under Messrs Grace Choong & Co in 2005.

In 2015, Ms Choong joined Mr Lim Kean Hean in Messrs K H Lim & Co where she was a partner until she set up Messrs Kean Min, Grace & Partners in 2023.

She firmly believed in upholding justice and not only ensuring justice is done but seen to be done. She always believed in delivering practical and efficient legal service with integrity and dedication to assist her clients and for a better Malaysia.

She has devoted most of her time to her profession for the past 22 years as an advocate and solicitor. Those who knew her found her to be a humble, hard-working, diligent and meticulous person. She was committed to her work and always went the extra mile to ensure her work was in order. I remember she once said she took the first bus in the morning from Klang to Kuala Lumpur for work and the last bus home throughout her time with Messrs Abd Aziz Chen & Co. She was always committed to fighting for her clients' best interests and achieving the most favorable outcomes without compromising integrity.

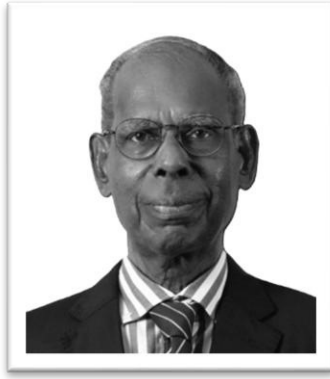
She was also a loyal friend, always going the extra mile for her friends. She remembered each of her best friends' and colleagues' birthdays and never failed to wish them. She valued her friendships and relationships with her godchildren. She offered guidance, shared her experiences and her knowledge to help individuals address and overcome various issues they have faced. This is borne out by the fact that her 9 godchildren called her "Mom" instead of God-mom. Her hospital room during her illness was always full of visitors who brought her favorite food together with much love and laughter.

She was a devout Christian and dedicated her life to serve Jesus and the Church by actively serving in various committees in Trinity Methodist Church, Petaling Jaya. She especially loved mentoring via the youth ministries, the Boys' Brigade and Christian education work.

She lived life to the fullest and was not afraid to take up adventurous activities such as Scuba Diving and going on Treasure Hunts.

Rest peacefully, your love echoes in our lives. You will always be remembered.

Contributed by Chin Kean Min
Messrs Kean Min, Grace & Partners



V. Jeevaretnam (Jeevaretnam a/l Valautham)

BC/J/131

4 October 1949 – 24 March 2024

I would like to honor and remember my dear father, Mr Jeevaretnam Valautham.

Jeeva as he was fondly known was born in a small town Serdang, Kedah on 4 October 1949. He came from extremely humble beginnings. He was the 7th child of sixteen siblings. Throughout his life, Jeeva was a filial son to his parents and responsible brother to his siblings. He was certainly selfless and a great mentor to his younger siblings supporting them financially and guiding them through their respective careers.

Though financially challenged, Jeeva was a highly motivated person. He completed the Higher School Certificate (now known as STPM) in 1967 by attending night classes whilst working as a part time clerk with the income tax department. Having sufficient grades and was able to read law then, Jeeva did not have the financial capacity to do so considering the responsibility to support his family. He instead accepted the offer from the Royal Customs Department and served as a preventive officer commencing the same year. Jeeva excelled in his career with the Customs Department and was remembered throughout the nation for busting a global network south American drug trafficking syndicate swallowing condoms filled with cocaine in the 1980's.

Dissatisfied with his growth in the department, though being a high performer, Jeeva decided to read law in 1986 by enrolling himself in the external University of London program. Jeeva undertook the formidable task of reading law by his own, after hours and weekends, often in solitude. I remembered him writing notes diligently extracting important paragraphs from photocopied textbooks borrowed from the British Council. His journey to the Bar was not one of ease or entitlement, but of perseverance, grit and an unshakable belief that he must always achieve his life goals.

Jeeva completed his law in 1990 and was promoted to Superintendent of Customs in the same year and was prosecuting customs offences thereon. After opting for early retirement, Jeeva commenced his law practice under the style and name Jeevaretnam & Co. Apart from defending clients accused of customs offences, Jeeva found deep interest in Employment Law. It can be safely said that Jeeva was a leading Employment Law practitioner in the nation, having recorded more than 150 published cases. He was often consulted by MNC's (Multinational Corporation), public listed companies and international associations with regards to labour and industrial law disputes. He loved law and never stepped out of courtroom action until 2 months before his passing.

It is common to hear someone to say “I know Jeeva. He is a “fine gentlemen in and outside court”. Always prepared to argue his cases and never fail his client. He was a ferocious advocate of honesty and integrity many times declined clients who questioned his integrity. Outside the Court room he was a loving man to his wife of 50 years often pampering her and ensuring her welfare was taken care. An avid history and geography fan, Jeeva and his wife travelled the globe often. He was a friend, mentor and a perfect father figure to his son, Shamesh Jeevaretnam. He always took off from his busy schedule to support Shamesh in football matches and athletics often cheering out his name at the corner of the stadium. He contributed significantly to Shamesh’s growth in legal practice and was always prepared to lend his ear to find resolutions when and where necessary. He often mentored the young and guided them not only in legal practice but in entrepreneurship. Jeeva served as the Vice President of the Malaysian Indian Entrepreneurs.

We thank you the KL Bar for this opportunity to remember him and honor my dear papa, Jeeva. His passing is a tremendous loss to all of us. His last few words to his grandchildren were “always be honest in your life, never compromise it for anything. Work hard and you will surely be an achiever”. We will uphold his simple life principles forever.

Quoting some notable figures in the legal profession to describe Jeeva are as follows:

Federal Court Judge Justice Vazeer Alam Mydin Meera said “*he was very hardworking and dedicated professional with a likeable personality*”.

High Court Judge Justice Anand Ponnudurai said “*Always prepared and professional. A loss to the legal profession*”.

Dato Azmi Mohd Ali of Azmi & Associates said “*Your dad was a self-made man, he refused to be contented with his career and wanted to achieve more hence he pursued the law degree with his own expense and a lot of sacrifice*”.

He has surely left a legacy indeed a towering figure and a “big shoe to fill in” for all of us at Jeeva Partnership. We will always miss him.

*Contributed by Dato’ Shamesh Jeevaretnam
On behalf of the family of Jeevaretnam*



Jason Reginald Gomez
BC/J/278
15 April 1972 – 1 April 2024

*The Lord Is My Shepherd –
This was Jason's favourite psalm and he lived by it in everything he did*

Those we love never truly leave us. This is true of Jason. One year on and he is very much a part of our daily conversation. Jason was absolutely a remarkable man – always ready to lend a helping hand or offer words of encouragement. He embodied the values of integrity and humility.

Jason was born into a close-knit Catholic family which explains his unwavering faith. He was a man of God and cherished his relationship with God. His journey on this earth was one marked by love, compassion and unshakeable faith in God.

Jason started his early education at La Salle Sentul and chose law as his career path. He completed his law education and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 13 August 1999 which was a proud moment for his family. From then on, he passionately practised law and eventually opened up his own firm in the year 2012 – Messrs Jason Gomez & Associates at Solaris Mont' Kiara, an accomplishment he was proud of.

Jason, besides being a practising lawyer, was also the Legal Advisor for Malaysian Dental Council from the year 2010 until his untimely demise. He was revered and spoken highly of by the Malaysian Dental Council members. His grasp of the Dental Act and his advice was truly cherished and appreciated by the Malaysian Dental Council members.

Besides legal work, Jason was passionate about travelling and much later, cooking. He had visited many countries and to name a few, United Kingdom, Mexico, China, India and France. The photographs taken during his travels is evident of his love for travelling. As for cooking, he is a great chef though not many people are aware of it besides his family. Jason had a talent for cooking and most of his dishes turned out absolutely delicious as can be attested to by his family members.

Jason was also a talented guitarist and a wonderful singer. His deep voice has received many accolades. His voice can be heard at many family gatherings singing mostly country western songs and worship songs. He was the live wire of many parties with his songs, hearty chats and overwhelming laughter.

Jason found love late in his life and entered into the sacrament of marriage on 17 August 2019. He was a devoted and loving husband. He was always a man devoted to his family and family was his priority especially more so after the demise of his twin brother in the year 2021. He was a loving husband, son, brother and Godpa. He can be counted on at any time and his comforting words when needed was always reassuring. This, we will miss.

Jason was always up for a challenge and never wavered on what he believed to be true no matter how tough the path may be in front of him. He can never be swayed from the truth.

Jason left an indelible mark on our lives and we will forever cherish his love, heartfelt laughter, wisdom and kindness. His passing has left a huge void in the hearts of his family, friends and many more whose lives were touched by him. While he may be gone from our sight, his spirit and positive influence will continue to inspire us.

Jason leaves behind his loving wife, his mum, his sister and his niece (god-daughter). Jason will forever remain in our hearts.

Contributed by his family



Tan Jee Tjun
BC/T/1363
27 December 1984 – 15 May 2024

In Memoriam: The Late Tan Jee Tjun – A Tireless Advocate, Mentor, and Friend

The legal fraternity mourns the loss of one of its most steadfast and remarkable members, the late Tan Jee Tjun. In reflecting on his legacy, we are reminded not only of the lawyer he was, but of the standard he set for us all — of excellence, resilience, loyalty, and wit. It is with great respect and deep affection that we pay tribute to a man whose commitment to the profession remained unshaken even in the face of adversity.

Tjun was, above all else, an excellent advocate and solicitor. These are not words used lightly. In a profession that often demands both intellectual rigour and emotional endurance, Tjun stood out for his ability to balance both with grace. Whether before the bench or at the office, he displayed an unwavering dedication to the rule of law and to the pursuit of justice for his clients.

It is difficult to speak of his professional accomplishments without acknowledging the extraordinary context in which many of them were achieved. In the final months of his life, Tjun underwent chemotherapy, surgeries, and various other taxing treatments. Yet, Tjun continued to conduct trials and hearings with the same meticulous preparation and unflinching focus for which he had always been known. Cancer, for Tjun, was not a reason to falter. Tjun refused to let his condition affect the quality of his work or the commitments he had made to clients, colleagues, and the court.

Indeed, Tjun endured almost unimaginable suffering in silence. Throughout his 5 to 6 years of battling cancer — specifically, nasopharyngeal cancer — he was constantly in physical pain. Simple acts such as speaking, eating, or even drinking water cause great discomfort. Yet, Tjun pressed on. Despite the pain, Tjun continued to submit in court using his voice, always clear, always considered, never once seeking sympathy or special treatment. In the final 1 to 2 months of his life, he lost most of his voice. And still, he appeared in court — this time with a portable microphone clipped on — his words faint but unwavering. His voice may have softened, but never once did his resolve.

There was once when he conducted a trial while on crutches. On other occasions, he was so physically unwell that he had to excuse himself mid-proceeding to vomit — only to return to court and resume his advocacy with undiminished sharpness. He cleared work in hospital beds, during chemotherapy sessions with the drip still attached, and even immediately

following high-risk surgeries. One particularly remarkable example was when he won an appeal just days after undergoing an open chest surgery act that would be unthinkable for most, but not for Tjun. For Tjun, his duty always came first.

This unrelenting dedication was perhaps most apparent shortly before his passing, when he succeeded in 3 difficult cases within a week, each of which would have challenged even the healthiest of counsel. To win 3 such cases in the space of a single week while undergoing intensive treatment speaks volumes of his legal skill, his mental resilience, and his unwavering sense of duty. It was this combination of courage and competence that made him not just a good lawyer, but a truly exceptional one.

Tjun's astounding resilience was not confined to the professional realm. In a feat virtually unheard of, Tjun obtained his black belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu while battling Stage 4 cancer. It was not a token award, but one earned through sheer perseverance, discipline, and excellence. He did not stop there. Tjun went on to compete — and win — in numerous international Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu competitions, even while undergoing treatment. These victories stand as a testament to his grit, his unbreakable spirit, and his refusal to let illness define or limit him.

Even in the final chapters of his life, Tjun refused to let go of adventure. In an act symbolic of indomitable strength, he carried through every aspect of his being, Tjun came close to summiting Mount Fuji. Undertaking such a physically demanding ascent while living with Stage 4 cancer would be inconceivable to most. But to Tjun, it was a challenge to be met, an experience to be pursued, and yet another demonstration of the resilience that defined his every step. Though Tjun did not reach the peak, the sheer audacity of the attempt stands as one of the most poignant reflections of who he was — relentless, unafraid, and full of life.

Tjun's excellence was not confined to the courtroom. He was a mentor in the truest sense of the word. He nurtured and guided his team with generosity and sincerity. Many young lawyers who had the privilege of working with him have spoken of the way he invested in their development — not merely by delegating tasks, but by offering insight, encouragement, and a listening ear. He had a gift for identifying potential in others and bringing it to the fore. He led not through fear or control, but through inspiration and trust. Under his mentorship, many junior practitioners flourished and developed the confidence to find their own voice within the legal profession.

Yet for all his professional rigour, Tan Jee Tjun never lost sight of the importance of friendship. He was, to many of us, a cherished companion. His creative humour, sharp wit, and irreverent sarcasm brought levity even to the most high-pressure environments. He had an uncanny ability to make people laugh without diminishing the seriousness of the work at hand. His sense of humour was not only a source of joy but also a means of connecting with people, putting clients at ease and reminding colleagues that humanity and humour have their rightful place even in the sternest of professions. He brought light into rooms that otherwise might have been weighed down by deadlines and demands. It is this light, as much as his intellect, that we miss.

It is often said that the measure of a person's life is not just in what they achieve, but in how they make others feel. Tjun made people feel seen, heard, supported, and encouraged. His legacy is not only found in the impressive body of legal work he leaves behind — many of which are documented in the reported decisions annexed to this note — but also in the lives he touched and the example he set.

Tjun showed us that resilience is not simply about endurance, but about maintaining integrity and excellence in the face of pain. He showed us that mentorship is not a duty, but a privilege. And he showed us that friendship, when paired with sincerity and laughter, can make even the most arduous journeys worthwhile.

As we reflect on Tjun's passing, we do so with gratitude. Gratitude for the privilege of having known him. Gratitude for the lessons he imparted through words, but many through actions. And gratitude for the moments of joy and camaraderie that he brought into our lives.

We carry forward his legacy with heavy hearts but determined spirits. His absence is felt acutely, but so too is his presence — in the values he championed, the people he inspired, and the standard he set.

To Tan Jee Tjun: advocate, solicitor, black belt, mentor, mountaineer, and friend — we miss you dearly.

Contributed by Serene Yap Shuk Yee(wife)

ANNEXURE

1. Ng Kwok Weng & Anor v. PENDAFTAR Hakmilik Tanah Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur & Ors [2023] 7 CLJ 270, HC
2. Hong & Fong v. Tan Po Lin & Anor [2022] 12 MLJ 381, HC
3. Leisure Farm Corp Sdn Bhd v Kabushiki Kaisha Ngu (Previously Known as Dai-Ichi Shokai) & Ors [2019] 11 MLJ 71, HC
4. Ulimas Sdn Bhd v Hi-Summit Construction Sdn Bhd and Other Appeals [2017] 2 MLJ 153, FC
5. Leisure Farm Corp Sdn Bhd v Kabushiki Kaisha Ngu (Formerly Known as Dai-Ichi Shokai) & Ors [2017] 5 MLJ 63, CA
6. Kabushiki Kaisha Ngu v Leisure Farm Corp Sdn Bhd & Ors [2016] 5 MLJ 557, FC
7. Othman Bin Ali & 290 Ors v Bukit Lenang Development Sdn Bhd [2016] 3 MLJ 708, CA
8. Wawasan Dengkil Properties Sdn Bhd & Ors v Khoo Peng Lai & Ors [2016] 6 MLJ 330, CA
9. Hi-Summit Construction Sdn Bhd v Konsortium Lapangan Terjaya Sdn Bhd & Ors [2015] 2 MLJ 247, CA
10. Francis A/L Augustine Pereira v Dataran Mantin Sdn Bhd & Ors and Other Appeals [2014] 6 MLJ 56, FC
11. Halaman Perdana Sdn Bhd & Ors v Tasik Bayangan Sdn Bhd [2014] 4 MLJ 1, FC
12. Leisure Farm Corp Sdn Bhd v Kabushiki Kaisha Ngu & Ors [2015] 4 MLJ 543, CA
13. Dato' Suhaimi Bin Ibrahim & Ors v Konsortium Lapangan Terjaya Sdn Bhd and Other Appeals [2014] 4 MLJ 419, CA





Charles Nicholson
BC/C/317
28 December 1952 – 17 May 2024

Charles Nicholson was born on 28 December 1952 in Kuala Lumpur. He earned his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from the University of Buckingham and completed his Certificate in Legal Practice (CLP) in 1987. He underwent his pupillage at Chooi & Co, under the guidance of Ng Seng Kiok, and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 13 August 1988.

At the time of his passing on 17 May 2024, Charles was actively practising at Zubir Jaafar & Antony Nicholson. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Ranjini a/p George Hunt Tharumaratnam
BC/R/166
25 May 1966 – 20 May 2024

Ranjini a/p George Hunt Tharumaratnam was born on 25 May 1966. She earned her Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from University Malaya and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 16 March 1991.

At the time of her passing on 20 May 2024, Ranjini was actively practising at R Vasanthi & Assoc. She will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.



Lee See Loon
BC/L/910
26 January 1971 – 1 June 2024

*“Not – How did he die? But – How did he live?
Not – What did he gain? But – What did he give?
These are the units to measure the worth of a man as a man, regardless of birth.”*

The late Mr. Lee See Loon was born in Taiping in 1971 and was the eldest son in a family of a boy and two girls.

He completed his early primary education at SJK (C) Hua Lian (1). Thereafter, he continued his secondary education at SMK Hua Lian. He went further on to complete STPM at SMK Hua Lian. The late Mr. Lee See Loon was an avid athlete during his schooling days in softball at *Majlis Sukan Sekolah* (MSS) Perak as well as being on the school basketball team which competed at District Level.

Due to his active participation and utmost dedication to Scouts, the late Mr. Lee See Loon was awarded the prestigious honour of King's Scout on 26 February 1989.

The late Mr. Lee See Loon then embarked on his journey in legal studies with his Degree in Law from the University of London. Subsequently, in 2002, the late Mr. Lee See Loon secured a Master of Law at University Malaya.

Upon obtaining his Certificate of Legal Practice, the late Mr. Lee See Loon commenced his pupillage under the tutelage of Mr. Tan Eng Choong of Messrs. Tan Eng Choong & Co. Post pupillage, he continued as a Legal Associate at Messrs. Tan Eng Choong & Co.

Subsequently, the late Mr. Lee See Loon proceeded to join Messrs. Soo Thien Ming & Nasrah as a Legal Associate. A year after that, he then returned to Messrs. Tan Eng Choong & Co in January 2021 as a Legal Associate.

The late Mr. Lee See Loon together with his other former colleagues from Messrs Tan Eng Choong & Co, Mr. Oliver Khaw Kar Heng & Ms. Gan Sye Ni, started the law firm Lee, Oliver & Gan at Jalan Loke Yew, Cheras.

The late Mr. Lee See Loon is a person that never shy from taking on difficult cases, even if such cases may seem futile or impossible. Faced with an uphill battle, the late Mr. Lee See Loon always believes that there is no problem he cannot fix, nor any problem he refuses to take on. The late Mr. Lee See Loon was an all-rounder and a dedicated lawyer who truly

enjoyed his profession, working relentlessly almost every day since he was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 23 November 1996.

Through his unyielding work, dedication as well as continuous efforts in legal practice, he was well respected not only by his clients but also in the legal profession. His career stands as a testament to the values of hard work, perseverance, and the tireless pursuit of excellence in the legal field.

That was not the case for his health. I guess some infinities are bigger than other infinities.

Beyond his professional success, what truly sets the late Mr. Lee See Loon apart is his character. Those who know him describe him as someone who is humble, approachable, and generous with his time.

His kindness and integrity are qualities that have earned him the respect and admiration of everyone he encounters.

In moments of triumph, Mr. Lee See Loon remains grounded, and in times of adversity, he remains steadfast. His resilience, his compassion, and his unwavering commitment to excellence are qualities that have made him not only a great professional but a truly great person.

The late Mr. Lee See Loon worked till the very last day of his life. He collapsed on the 31 May 2024 after a quick late dinner post meeting with a client that evening. The late Mr. Lee See Loon left behind his beloved wife, Madam Lena Beh Beng Ewe. Just like the saying goes, 'Our dead are never dead to us, until we have forgotten them.' The late Mr. Lee See Loon will be greatly remembered by his family, relatives and friends.

I had the opportunity to be under the late Mr. Lee See Loon's tutelage and guidance during my pupillage. From him, I learnt numerous legal practices and life lessons. Amongst others that I recall vividly is that everything in life happens for a reason. Good days tell me that life is beautiful. Bad days tell me that there is more to learn from life. Good people give you valuable memories and bad people give you valuable lessons.

I never believed in bidding farewell. Someday, we will meet you again. Maybe not this time. Maybe not in this world. But I know that one day in another place we will meet again. Till we meet again, Mr. Lee See Loon.

To conclude, let us ponder on the late Mr. Lee See Loon's life mantra:

"I am what I am. Nothing more, definitely less."

*Contributed by Phoon Wai Weng
(Messrs Linda, Liew & Phoon)*



Terence Phillips
BC/T/1065
26 June 1960 – 29 May 2024

My name is Rozie Tun Phillips, the sole daughter of a remarkable father, Terence Phillips whose life as a lawyer was defined by unwavering dedication and immense responsibility. My father's work ethic and commitment to providing for our family have been the cornerstone of my journey, shaping the opportunities I've been privileged to pursue. His sacrifices and determination to balance his demanding profession with his role as a loving parent left an indelible mark on my life.

My dad's journey as a lawyer has been a testament to the profound responsibilities and sacrifices inherent in the legal profession, particularly when balancing a demanding career with family commitments. His dedication to his work has not only shaped his professional identity but also profoundly influenced our family's life, providing stability, opportunities, and a vision for a better future.

The Role of a Lawyer in Shaping Family Life

As a lawyer, my dad's responsibilities extended far beyond the courtroom. He was not just an advocate for his clients but also a pillar of support for our family. His profession required him to navigate complex legal issues, often involving families in distress, which mirrored his own commitment to safeguarding and nurturing ours. Whether advising clients on child custody matters or negotiating settlements, he displayed the same care and diligence that he applied to ensuring our well-being at home.

Lawyers often face immense pressure due to the nature of their work. My dad's ability to manage these pressures while being present for us was remarkable. His work demanded long hours, meticulous attention to detail, and emotional resilience—qualities that he carried into his role as a father. He often spoke about how his profession taught him empathy and the importance of understanding different perspectives, lessons he imparted to us through his actions and words.

Balancing Work and Family Responsibilities

One of the most striking aspects of my dad's career was his ability to balance the demands of his office with the needs of our family. Legal work is notoriously time-consuming, with cases often requiring extensive research, preparation, and client interaction. Despite this, my dad made it a priority to be actively involved in our lives. He would attend school events, help with homework, and offer guidance on life's challenges—all while managing his professional commitments. His office hours were long and often unpredictable, yet he never let this detract from his role as a parent. He believed that providing for his family went beyond financial support; it included being emotionally available and fostering an environment where we felt secure and valued. This dual commitment exemplified the sacrifices many professionals make to ensure their families thrive.

Education and Opportunities

Thanks to my father's relentless hard work and perseverance, I was able to build a better life in the United States—a dream he worked tirelessly to make possible. His commitment to ensuring I had access to quality education and opportunities has been the driving force behind my achievements. Now, as I strive hard to achieve my goals, I carry with me the values he instilled: resilience, determination, and the importance of making the most of every opportunity.

My father's sacrifices have paved the way for me to chase my dreams, and I am committed to honouring his legacy by working diligently toward my aspirations. Every step I take is a testament to his unwavering love and dedication to our family's future.

He often shared stories about his cases—without breaching confidentiality—that highlighted the importance of planning for the future. These anecdotes served as lessons for us, emphasising the value of hard work, integrity, and perseverance. My dad's ability to connect his professional experiences with personal guidance was one of the ways he prepared us for life's challenges.

The Legacy of Love and Dedication

Tragically, my dad's life was cut short while he was doing what he loved most—working tirelessly for his clients and our family. He passed away during office hours, a poignant reminder of his unwavering dedication to his work and the people he cared about. His passing left a void in our lives, but it also reminded us of the countless ways he enriched our world.

His legacy is one of love, responsibility, and an unrelenting pursuit of justice. Even in his final moments, he was committed to his craft, a testament to the passion and purpose that defined him. As we reflect on his life, we remember not just his professional achievements but the countless ways he shaped our family's life with his love, guidance, and unwavering support. He reflected on how his career had shaped not only his life but also ours. His office hours may have ended, but the values he instilled in us—responsibility, empathy, and resilience—continue to guide us. His journey as a lawyer was not just about advocating for justice; it was about building a foundation for our family's success and happiness.

And yet, amid all the seriousness and structure of his profession, my dad never lost his sense of humor or his creative flair. While other kids got fairy tales at bedtime, I got the fall of the Roman Empire, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and a dramatic retelling of the Magna Carta—with voices and courtroom-style arguments, of course. “Rozie,” he’d say, “remember, even Julius Caesar couldn’t ignore a good cross-examination.” It was in those moments that I realized wisdom could be passed down with laughter—and that education wasn’t just a goal, but a gift.

In conclusion, my dad's profession as a lawyer was more than a job; it was a calling that defined his approach to life and family. The responsibilities he shouldered were immense, yet he carried them with grace and determination. His passing during office hours was a tragic reminder of the sacrifices he made for us, but it also underscored the enduring impact of his life and legacy on our family. His journey as a lawyer was not just about advocating for justice; it was about building a foundation for our family's success and happiness. His profession may have demanded much, but what he gave us in return was immeasurable.

Legacy.

Contributed by: Khin Khin Tun & Rozie Tun Phillips



Chong Juen Quan
BC/ C/1609
30 January 1989 – 27 July 2024

Chong Juen Quan, Juen as he was known to his friends, left us all too soon on 29 July 2024.

From a young age, Juen showed qualities that would define him throughout his life — leadership, discipline, and compassion. While a student at St. John's Institution, Kuala Lumpur, he served as School Captain, a role reserved for those held in the highest regard by peers and the teaching faculty. It was a fitting early chapter for a life marked by quiet authority, strength of character, and dedication to those around him.

Juen read law at the University of the West of England, Bristol, and completed the Bar Professional Training Course in Leeds. He was admitted as a member of Inner Temple.

He returned to Malaysia and began his legal career in 2012, undergoing pupillage at Messrs Raja, Darryl & Loh, reading in the chambers of Datuk Darryl Goon. Upon his admission to the Bar in 2013, he continued as an associate, and then senior associate at Raja, Darryl & Loh, remaining there until 2021. Over nearly a decade at one of Malaysia's most respected law firms, he honed his skills, developed deep professional relationships, and earned a reputation for excellence in legal work, primarily but not exclusively, relating to the banking industry.

In December 2021, Juen co-founded Messrs Juen, Jeat, Nic & Nair, where he served as partner until his passing. In this later venture, he expanded his practice to include extensive work in the insurance sector, continuing to distinguish himself as a trusted and dedicated advocate.

Throughout his career, Juen was known as an indefatigable lawyer. He was tireless, meticulous, and deeply committed — the kind of lawyer who did not count the hours, but measured his success by the results he achieved and the integrity with which he served.

Clients and colleagues both valued his judgment and his resolve. His clients always felt they were in safe hands, knowing well that he would always go the extra mile; his colleagues, on the other hand, were not always enthused by his stubborn need to constantly challenge and rethink conclusions that had been reached after umpteen challenges and rethinks.

But to those who knew him personally, his greatest legacy did not lie in the law, but in his friendship. Juen was a man of immense loyalty — a steadfast friend who stood by those he cared for in good times and bad. His loyalty was absolute. He did not simply show up when it was convenient; he was there when it mattered. His friendships were deep, enduring, and full of strength.

Outside the legal world, Juen was a man of vitality and drive. He was an avid sportsman, who excelled on the football field, and was known as an incredibly quick sprinter. His energy was infectious. Whether on the pitch, in the courtroom, or at the office, he brought the same spirit of determination and desire for victory. This also meant that, in times of defeat, he was an incorrigible moaner and complainer. In his own words, he was one of the worst sore losers around.

Juen gave generously to the next generation. As a mentor, he was approachable, thoughtful, and patient — always willing to guide younger lawyers, to lend an ear, or to share the lessons he had learned in his own practice.

I knew Juen for around 17 years. We were schoolmates, colleagues in Raja, Darryl & Loh, and co-founding partners of Juen, Jeat, Nic & Nair. I attest to everything said about his qualities as a friend, a colleague, a lawyer. His parents have lost a son, something no parent should have to experience. While nothing can compare to that, at JJNN, we have lost a partner, colleague, mentor and dear friend, a man whose life touched many others. His absence has been and will continue to be deeply felt by all; his example, his loyalty, his commitment, hard work and spirit will long be remembered.

Contributed by Harish Nair



Dato' Harpal Singh Grewal
BC/H/11
9 October 1950 – 2 August 2024

If it pleases the Court,

Good morning, distinguished members of the judiciary, learned friends of the Bar, family, and cherished guests. Today, we gather in this hallowed court to honor a man who was not only a titan of the legal profession but also a beacon of integrity, courage, and love—my father, Dato' Harpal Singh Grewal.

It is both a solemn occasion and a moment to celebrate his extraordinary life, his storied career at the Bar, and the indelible mark he left on all of us. Standing here, I am joined by my mother, Datin Harwinder Kaur, and my sisters, Jesrina Kaur Grewal and Karina Kaur Grewal. Together as a family, we move this reference in memory of a man who moved all our calls to the Bar and whose legacy continues to guide us.

Dato' Harpal Singh Grewal was born on October 9, 1950, in Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan, to Surjan Singh and Sojan Kaur and grew up alongside his siblings—Gurcharan, Paritam, Herpal, and Ranjit—in a home where discipline and purpose were the cornerstones of life.

From these modest beginnings, my father worked tirelessly to carve a path of success, not just for himself but to ensure that his family—my mother, my sisters, and I—could live a comfortable life. His journey was a testament to the values of hard work and resilience, mirroring the aspirations of a young nation finding its footing.

His pursuit of knowledge led him to the National University of Singapore, where he read law, financed not by privilege but by a loan from the Seremban Sikh Temple—a debt he repaid in full, reflecting his lifelong commitment to honor and integrity.

After chambering in Kuantan and practicing at Ariffin & Ooi, he co-founded Messrs. A.J. Ariffin, Yeo & Harpal in 1981, a bold move that defied convention. Under his leadership, the firm became an important feature of Malaysian legal practice, known not only for its clientele but for its unwavering ethical standards and principled advocacy.

My father's legal career was a tapestry of brilliance, woven with landmark cases that shaped Malaysian jurisprudence.

In *Lai Siew Wah Sdn Bhd v Ng Chin* [1988], he persuaded the Supreme Court that allegations of fraud could override arbitration clauses, setting a lasting precedent in arbitration law.

In *Goh Keat Poh & Ors v Farlim Properties Sdn Bhd* [2009], his advocacy at the Court of Appeal reinforced the doctrines of *res judicata* and *stare decisis*, strengthening the foundations of property law.

The case of *Jagdis Singh Banta Singh v Outlet Rank (M) Sdn Bhd* [2013] holds special resonance for many lawyers here. Facing a technical objection over unsigned notice of appeal, my father convinced the Court of Appeal to prioritise merits over procedure, a victory that has shielded countless practitioners from the tyranny of technicalities.

More recently, in *Balbeer Singh a/l Karam Singh & Ors v Sentul Raya Sdn Bhd* [2022], he secured a pivotal ruling on damages assessment and application of evidentiary rules, reaffirming principles of fairness in commercial litigation. Each case was a masterclass in technical excellence, driven by a vision of justice that transcended the courtroom.

Yet, my father's impact extended beyond his victories. He was a mentor whose wisdom shaped generations of lawyers. One of his enduring contributions was the creation of a WhatsApp group for Sikh lawyers—a vibrant community where knowledge is shared freely, and advice is dispensed with the same quick wit that defined his courtroom presence. This group remains a living testament to his commitment to legal scholarship and camaraderie and ably administered by my cousin, who is also a lawyer, Avinder Singh Gill.

Today, I want to extend a special note of gratitude to Justice Dato' Anand Ponnudurai, who has travelled from Penang to join us. My father held Justice Anand in high regard, a bond deepened by his close friendship with Justice Anand's late father, the eminent Mr. R. Ponnudurai.

In his long career, my father acted as counsel for many lawyers and also instructed a few to act as counsel for him. But there is a poignant distinction worth sharing: he had the rare privilege of instructing both Mr. R. Ponnudurai and Justice Anand as counsel before His Lordship's elevation to the bench. I still recall, very soon after Justice's elevation to the High Court in December 2019, my father and I appeared before him in Kuala Lumpur High Court NCC1 – my father told me he was proud to address him as My Lord. This connection is a beautiful thread in the tapestry of my father's career, a story of mutual respect and shared dedication to the law that I know my father cherished deeply.

Since taking over the reins of the firm alongside my mother, Datin Harwinder, I have been humbled by the stories shared by lawyers who knew my father. The common thread in these anecdotes is his wit, his quick thinking, and his infectious sense of humor—qualities that, I am told, my sisters and I have inherited in varying degrees. Whether it was a sharp quip in court or a light-hearted jab during a family dinner, his humour was a gift that brought people together. Those fiery curry-fuelled debates at home, where laughter mingled with legal discourse, are memories we will always treasure.

My father's courage was as legendary as his wit. During the political turmoil of 1998, he fearlessly attested affidavits affirmed by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, a decision that cost him his commissioner for oaths licence. Undeterred, he stood firm in his convictions. Years later, he represented Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's in the early days of his legal travails and even appeared on CNN – embodying his belief that a lawyer's duty is to represent without fear or favour, no matter the controversy. He often said, "*Integrity demands courage*," and he lived those words in every facet of his life.

Beyond the courtroom, my father's compassion defined him. After his passing on August 2, 2024, we learned of countless acts of quiet generosity—scholarships funded, homes purchased for staff, cars gifted discreetly. He never sought recognition for these deeds, preferring they remain unspoken.

At home, he was the heart of our family, a devoted husband to my mother, a proud father who moved the calls to the bar of my mother, Jesrina, Karina, and I, and a devoted grandfather to Anaayah, Shayaan, Arshaan, Riaan, Alania, Aaliyah, and Aryaan. The title of "Dato'," bestowed in 2009, paled in comparison to the joy he found in being "Papaji," a role that lit up his eyes and filled his heart.

Many have asked me about my father's legacy. He raised us—Jesrina, Karina, and me—to be our own persons, to value our individuality while striving to be useful members of society. He taught us that life, much like law, is not a perfect journey. You win some, you lose some, but the measure of a life lies in its value, its integrity, and, above all, its love. I am immensely proud that our father lived life to the fullest, as many of you here can attest. He did so with a moral compass that never wavered, leaving behind a legacy that inspires us to be better, to do better, and to love better.

Helen Keller reminds us that "*what we have once enjoyed we can never lose; all that we love deeply becomes a part of us.*" I do not feel that I have lost my father, for he is woven into the very fabric of who we are.

His life—rooted in humble beginnings—unfolded into an extraordinary journey that shaped Malaysian jurisprudence, yet he never lost the warmth and humility that endeared him to everyone he met. Approachable, kind, and unmistakably human, he carried his success with quiet grace, proving that greatness and gentleness can reside in the same heart. The overwhelming outpouring of love at his passing was not mere condolences; they were resounding affirmations that his spirit lives on in each life he touched—a lasting testament to a life deeply loved and, therefore, never truly gone.

As we move this reference, my mother, my sisters, and I are profoundly grateful for your presence, your solace, and the strength you have given us during this time of loss. Your support is a reminder of the community my father cherished and served. To the judiciary, the Bar, and all who knew him, thank you for honouring his memory today.

Dato' Harpal Singh Grewal was more than a lawyer; he was a mentor, a father, a grandfather, a husband, and a friend. His shadow casts warmth and light, guiding us forward with the values he held dear.

May we honour him by living with the same courage, integrity, and love that defined his remarkable life.

Thank you.

Contributed by Datin Harwinder Kaur, Jesrina Kaur Grewal, Ivanpal Singh Grewal, Karina Kaur Grewal



Razali bin Puyamin
BC/ /543
1 January 1974 – 4 July 2024

Razali bin Puyamin – Satu Nama, Seribu Kenangan

Razali bin Puyamin, dilahirkan pada 1 Januari 1974 di Batu Pahat Johor dan merupakan anak ke 6 daripada 10 adik beradik dan dilahirkan kembar. Beliau mendapat pendidikan awal di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Seri Medan dan kemudian di Sekolah Tinggi Batu Pahat.

Setelah menamatkan pelajaran menengahnya, beliau meneruskan pengajian di Universiti Malaya di dalam bidang perundangan. Pertemuan dengan Hasniza di Universiti Malaya telah membawa pasangan ini ke jinjing pelamin pada tahun 2000 dan dikurniakan 3 orang cahaya mata.

Namun begitu langit tak selalu cerah, hidup juga tidak selalu indah, beliau telah kembali ke rahmatullah pada 4 Julai 2024, dalam usia yang baru mencecah 50 tahun, pemergiannya yang mengejut dan begitu pantas amat dirasakan oleh semua yang mengenalinya. Beliau bukan sekadar seorang insan biasa – beliau adalah suami, sahabat, penasihat, dan beliau pelindung yang penuh kasih sayang.

Seorang yang berilmu dan berprinsip, Allahyarham meniti kerjayanya sebagai seorang peguam selama 24 tahun dengan penuh berintegriti. Dalam bidang tersebut, beliau tidak hanya menjalankan tugas, tetapi memperjuangkan keadilan dan kebenaran dengan sepenuh hati. Ketegasan beliau dalam pekerjaan disulami dengan nilai kemanusiaan yang tinggi menjadikan beliau seorang yang amat disegani dan dihormati dalam kalangan rakan sekerja dan anak guamnya.

Di mata orang luar, Razali mungkin kelihatan agak serius, wajah yang tenang, penuh fokus dan jarang menampakkan emosi. Namun bagi mereka yang rapat, hakikatnya beliau adalah seorang yang amat penyayang, peramah, prihatin, dan sentiasa mengambil berat terhadap orang di sekelilingnya. Beliau bukan sahaja menunaikan tanggungjawab, malah melaksanakannya dengan penuh kasih dan rasa hormat kepada semua.

Sebagai seorang suami, beliau tiada galang gantinya. Tidak ramai lelaki yang mampu menggalas peranan seorang ketua keluarga dengan penuh kelembutan dan empati seperti beliau. Beliau sentiasa mendengar, memahami dan memberi ruang kepada pasangannya untuk berkembang dan bersinar. Dalam apa jua keadaan, beliau hadir sebagai pendengar yang setia, penasihat yang sabar, dan penyokong yang tidak pernah lelah. Keprihatinan beliau terhadap keperluan dan perasaan orang lain benar-benar menjadikan beliau seorang yang istimewa.

Sukar untuk dilupakan bagaimana beliau sentiasa cuba menceriakan hari-hari kami – dengan jenaka ringan, dengan sentuhan lembut, atau hanya dengan kehadirannya yang menenangkan. Dalam diam dan tanpa banyak bicara, beliau tahu bila harus menguatkan, dan bila harus mendiamkan diri untuk memberi ruang. Itulah seni kasih sayang yang beliau miliki – tidak ramai yang mampu memberinya, tetapi beliau berikan dengan ikhlas setiap hari.

Pemergiannya terlalu cepat, terlalu tidak disangka. Sehingga hari ini, sukar untuk menerima kenyataan bahawa beliau telah tiada. Rasa terkilan itu tidak dapat diungkap dengan kata-kata – tidak sempat mengucapkan terima kasih atas segala pengorbanan, tidak sempat menyatakan betapa beliau amat disayangi dan dihargai. Dalam sekelip mata, insan yang menjadi nadi kepada kehidupan kami diambil pergi buat selama-lamanya. Ruang yang ditinggalkan terlalu besar, dan kekosongan itu terlalu sunyi untuk diisi.

Keluarga kini kehilangan seorang figura yang menjadi tempat bergantung, tempat berteduh. Rakan-rakan kehilangan seorang teman yang setia, yang sentiasa hadir ketika diperlukan. Masyarakat kehilangan seorang insan yang gigih berkhidmat, memberi sumbangan dalam kapasiti beliau sebagai peguambela dan sebagai manusia yang bertanggungjawab.

Namun, warisan kasih beliau tidak akan hilang begitu sahaja. Ia hidup dalam kenangan, dalam tutur kata yang pernah ditinggalkan, dalam nasihat yang terus menjadi panduan. Dan yang paling penting, kasih sayangnya tetap mengalir dalam setiap insan yang pernah mengenalinya – menjadi penguat semangat untuk terus melangkah walau tanpa kehadiran fizikalnya.

Ucapan Penghargaan

Kami sekeluarga ingin merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada semua yang telah bersama kami dalam menghadapi detik kehilangan ini – sama ada melalui doa, kata semangat, atau sekadar kehadiran yang memberi kekuatan. Semoga segala kebaikan yang pernah beliau lakukan diterima sebagai amal soleh, dan semoga *Allah SWT* menempatkan roh beliau dalam kalangan orang yang beriman dan beramal soleh.

Al-Fatihah buat Allahyarham Razali bin Puyamin. Walau jasadmu telah tiada, kasihmu tetap hidup dalam setiap hembusan rindu dan doa yang tidak pernah putus.

Contributed by Hasniza Binti Ad Siraj @ Ahmad



Dato' Hanif Bin Hashim
BC/ H/568
20 February 1961 – 8 September 2024

Allahyarham Dato' Hanif Bin Hashim was born on 20 February 1961 in Tanjung Malim, Perak. He earned his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from the International Islamic University Malaysia in 1999. He underwent his pupillage at Sazali Sulaiman & Associates, under the guidance of How Boon Seng @ Low Boon Seng, and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 14 June 2002.

Before entering legal practice, Allahyarham served in the Royal Malaysia Police from 1980 to 1984, after which he held the position of Prosecuting Officer until 2001.

At the time of his passing on 8 September 2024, Allahyarham was actively practising at Hanif & Co. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.



Francis Ng Sai Wai
BC/ N/313
9 December 1967 – 9 September 2024

It is with deep love, respect, and immense pride that we write this tribute to honour the life and memory of our beloved Francis Ng Sai Wai. As a family, we have always known him not just as a dedicated legal professional, but as a man of quiet strength, unwavering principles, and deep kindness - qualities with which he left his mark, not only in the profession but in the lives of the family and so many around him.

Francis was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1993, on the very same day as Jean; a moment captured in a framed photograph that still hangs at home. It is rare for two people to begin their legal journeys side by side, and rarer still to build both a life and a career together from that shared beginning. They married the following year, in 1994, and went on to grow not only a family, but also parallel careers in the same area of legal practice. Their relationship was one of true partnership and mutual respect, grounded in a shared sense of purpose and a quiet, enduring love that sustained them through every stage of life.

To us, his family, he was a steady presence. He took great pride in his children's achievements - occasionally through outward praise but more often through smaller, meaningful ways: a thoughtful question at the right moment, a quiet word of encouragement, or a silent but reassuring presence at every important milestone. He never imposed his views or pressured us toward any particular path. Instead, he listened with care, guided with wisdom, and trusted us to make our own choices. And in doing so, he gave us not just the tools to find our own way, but the confidence to walk it. His love was constant, dependable, and expressed in a thousand small acts that spoke louder than words ever could.

Outside of his legal work, Francis found one of his greatest joys and communities in the Malaysian Bar Sports Committee. He was deeply involved for many years, particularly in badminton, a sport he loved with enthusiasm and competitive spirit. As captain and convenor of the Malaysian Bar badminton team, he led not just with skill, but with heart. To his teammates, he was more than just a leader, he was "Captain." The nickname stuck not because he asked for it, but because it spoke to how he led, encouraged, and brought people together with quiet confidence, humility, and sense of camaraderie that made everyone feel they belonged.

His involvement in the Bar's sporting events extended beyond just badminton. He believed strongly in the importance of community and creating bonds both within and beyond the

profession, and of finding joy in shared passions. Through sport, he built lasting friendships across borders, offered mentorship, and created memories that his teammates and peers still speak of with fondness.

As we reflect on his life, what stands out are not grand gestures, but steadfast commitment, quiet leadership, and acts of generosity and kindness that spoke volumes. He was not someone who sought accolades or the limelight. His legacy lives in the relationships he nurtured, the respect he earned, and the quiet way he enriched the lives of those around him. Whether at home, in his legal practice, or on the badminton court, he embodied consistency, dependability, and a calm presence - all rooted in a strong moral compass and genuine kindness.

We miss him dearly, and perhaps the grief will never fully go away, though what is grief if not love persevering? We honour him in the ways we live, in the values we carry forward, and in the love we continue to share. And we take comfort in knowing that his legacy lives on - in the family he loved, the profession he served, and the community he helped shape.

Contributed by Jean Chiew & family



Khairuzzaman b Muhammad
BC/K/188
30 November 1965 – 16 September 2024

Allahyarham Khairuzzaman b Muhammad was born on 30 November 1965 in Kuala Kedah. He earned his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from the Essex Institute of Higher Education in 1988 and as a Barrister-At-Law after being called to the English Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1989.

He underwent his pupillage at Albar Zulkifly & Yap, under the guidance of Syed Zaid bin Syed Jaafar Albar, and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 21 September 1990.

Allahyarham was one of the founding members of Zul Rafique & Partners and served the firm with unwavering dedication from its inception in 1989 until his untimely passing on 16 September 2024. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Khairuzzaman who was also fondly called Zaman was born in Kedah where his late father was then employed in the Government sector and had his primary education there and upon being transferred to Kuala Lumpur continued his secondary education in the Victoria Institution in Kuala Lumpur. After successfully completing his Form Five GCE examination, he proceeded to Milton Keynes College to continue with his A level examinations successfully. Thereafter he continued to read law with what was then referred to as Essex Institute of Education and completed his Bachelor of Law degree with a 2nd Class honour.

Immediately thereafter he was admitted as a student member with Lincoln's Inn and in 1989 graduated with a degree of Barrister-at-law. Upon return to Malaysia he read in the chambers of Albar, Zulkifly & Yap and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1990 and continued his practice with that firm in which he was also admitted to partnership.

Thereafter in 1998 he went on study leave to Australia and was admitted to University of Sydney in Australia and secured a diploma in Commercial Law and returned home to join Zul Rafique & Partners as a partner till his untimely demise.

He is married and has three lovely daughters.

His interest was in commercial law as evidenced in the various law reports in our jurisdiction. Zaman's interest in law was incomparable as evidenced by his collection of law books and Reports. He had maintained his own library at home. He had an appetite for learning the law

and for researching the same and was available to his colleagues almost 24 hours on any day for a discussion or further research. To put it fairly and truly, his interest in life was his quest for the law and his family and in that order.

Most unfortunately, he was taken ill and was hospitalised for a short while before his untimely demise. He is sadly missed not only by his children, his partners but also his colleagues at the bar and friends.

Contributed by Zul Rafique & Partners



Joseph a/l Iruthayam
BC/ J/233
2 November 1958 – 28 September 2024

A man who started life with so little but gave so much to everyone around him. He grew up studying under the streetlight, pushing through every hardship to become one of the most respected lawyers in our country. But more than his achievements, it was his heart that truly set him apart.

Mr Joseph's path to success wasn't easy. He began as a technician at Telekom, but his potential was quickly recognised by a gentleman named Mr Asireevatham who saw something special in him and encouraged him to pursue law, and that's how he found the determination to chase his dreams. In the courtroom, he was a force to be reckoned with. He had an incredible ability to challenge judges, presenting facts with such precision that his knowledge always left a lasting impression. He moved with confidence, and those who watched him in action often described it as nothing short of remarkable. He would spend hours reading and learning, always eager to expand his mind. Every book he bought was a valuable investment, but the knowledge he gained was priceless and something no one could ever take away from him.

But Mr Joseph's brilliance extended beyond his personal success—he was a mentor to many. He was strict and demanding with his trainees, always pushing them to their limits. Yet, those who had the privilege of being mentored by him know the immense value of the lessons he imparted. They walked away not only with legal knowledge but with a deeper understanding of discipline, dedication, and hard work.

He also gave back to his church community in profound ways. As a Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) leader in the 90s, he played a key role in bringing Tamil youth together at the Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes, now known as Church of Guadalupe Puchong. His leadership and commitment to the church left an impact that will be felt for generations.

Mr Joseph was more than just a brother—he was the rock of the Iruthayam family. He shared a deep bond with his brothers, always close and supportive, playing the role of the eldest with so much care and love. He was also always there for his sisters, no matter the time or situation. One phone call, and he would show up to help, no questions asked. He was the one who brought everyone together, especially during Christmas. Those who attended the parties would know how much love and laughter he brought to the family.

Mr Joseph stepped in as a father figure for his nieces and nephews. He cared for them deeply, guiding and disciplining them with love. After his sister lost her husband, he did the

same for her children—always ready to support, protect, and guide the family. Many in the family credit who they are today to the love, wisdom, and values Mr Joseph instilled in them. As a son, Mr Joseph was incredibly devoted to his mother. He made sure she was always taken care of and did everything a son should do and more. His absence leaves a void in her life that cannot be filled, but the love they shared will always remain in her heart.

To his son, Jeremiah, Mr Joseph was a loving father, always striving to give him the best and supporting him in every way. He truly cared for him deeply and always wanted the best for his son.

The love between Mr Joseph and his wife Ms Jeya was something truly special. She was his constant support, always standing by him through every challenge. Without her, he wouldn't have achieved all that he did. In his final moments, it was her presence that brought him comfort, and her loss is one that cannot be put into words.

Beyond family, Mr Joseph touched countless lives throughout his career. As a lawyer, he helped many people, often refusing to take payment for his services. His compassion and dedication made a real difference in the lives of everyone around him, and his legacy of kindness will be remembered by everyone he helped.

Though we are heartbroken, we find comfort in the memories we shared and the love he left behind. As the saying goes, "A life that touches others goes on forever."

Your kindness, laughter, and love will always be with us. The family values you instilled—your strength, compassion, and generosity—will live on in us forever.

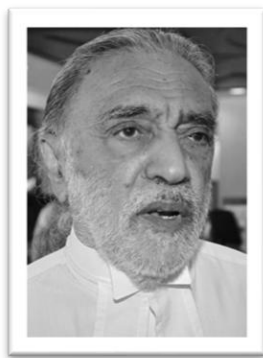
Contributed by his family



Hong Nan Tong
BC/H/166
27 February 1956 – 10 October 2024

Hong Nan Tong was born on 27 February 2024 in Malacca. He earned her Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from University of London in 1989 and his Certificate in Legal Practice in 1991. He underwent his pupillage at Shairudin Aziz & Co. under the guidance of Shairudin bin Abdul Aziz, and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 15 January 1993.

At the time of his passing on 10 October 2024, Hong Nan Tong was actively practising at Lee Sok Wah & Co. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.



Manjeet Singh Dhillon
BC/M/20
13 July 1942 – 28 October 2024

Manjeet Singh Dhillon was born on 13 July 1942. He earned his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from University of London in 1971 and as a Barrister-At-Law after being called to the English Bar by the Middle Temple, Inns of Court. He was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 3 November 1977.

Manjeet served with the Attorney-General's Chambers and held roles as a Sessions Court Judge from 1970 to 1973, Deputy Public Prosecutor from 1973 to 1975 and Assistant Treasury Solicitor from 1975 to 1977 before moving into private practice in the late 1970s.

Manjeet was the managing partner at Lawrence, Dhillon & Associates from 1978 to 1988 before starting the law firm of Manjeet Singh Dhillon in 1989.

Manjeet served as the President of the Malaysian Bar (1991/1992), Vice-President of the Malaysian Bar (1990/1991), and Secretary of the Malaysian Bar (1988/1989 and 1989/1990). He was a member of the Bar Council from March 1986 to March 1992 and March 2003 to 2004. He was a member of the Selangor & Federal Territory Bar Committee from 1985/1986 to 1989/1990 and he was also a past president of the Royal Lake Club.

Manjeet was involved in numerous notable legal cases including the murder of cosmetics millionaire Datuk Sosilawati Lawiya and her three aides, committed 14 years ago. Manjeet was also political analyst Abdul Razak Baginda's counsel in the civil case filed by the family of Altantuya Shaariibuu, the Mongolian model who was murdered in 2006. He is known for representing then-politician Datuk S Nallakaruppan in his trial with regards to arms possession, and also then-Malacca executive councillor Datuk Sahar Arpan in a corruption case in the 1990's where Manjeet appeared with Datuk Jagjit Singh. With his trademark ponytail, Manjeet is known for his sharp-witted cross-examination and for being quick in making pointed submissions.

At the time of his passing on 28 October 2024, Manjeet Singh Dhillon was a sole proprietor of Manjeet Singh Dhillon. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

May it please Your Lordship,

Of all the things I might have imagined being called upon to do for Mr. Manjeet, penning this reference in honour of his memory is one I never anticipated. And yet, it stands as the greatest privilege of my professional life to pay tribute to a man I have long regarded as one of the finest advocates this country has ever produced.

I rise today with both reverence and sorrow, to offer, on behalf of the Bar and in my own humble capacity, a tribute to the late **Mr. Manjeet Singh Dhillon** — a man who stood as both a pillar of the legal fraternity and a relentless sentinel of justice.

Mr. Manjeet was, in the truest and most noble sense of the word, a lawyer's lawyer. He was not merely learned in law — he was devoted to its spirit, uncompromising in its ethics, and unafraid in its pursuit.

From the the **Honourable Society of Middle Temple**, admitted to the Bar in 1977, and having served the judiciary as Magistrate, Sessions Court Judge, Deputy Public Prosecutor, and Treasury Solicitor — he brought with him the rare and full spectrum of legal service, eventually founding his own chambers, first, at Lawrence, Dhillon & Associates with **Mr Lawrence Pereira**, and later, Messrs Manjeet Singh Dhillon. He went on to serve as Secretary, Vice-President, and President of the Malaysian Bar, and led the Royal Lake Club with equal resolve.

Before embarking on his legal career, he had been an English teacher — a Kirby-trained educator from the United Kingdom. It is not difficult to see how those early days of instruction and clarity of thought came to colour his advocacy: precise, disciplined, and deeply communicative.

Ms Sonia Dhillon, Mr Manjeet's beloved daughter shared with me a slightly lesser-known fact — though no less telling of the breadth of his character — Mr Manjeet always had a soft spot for animals and once served as President of PAWS Animal Welfare Society. It is perhaps poetic that he found himself at the helm of PAWS — for while his compassion for animals was boundless, his tolerance for nonsense in human affairs was... considerably more restrained.

But to confine his legacy to mere titles would be to miss the man. Mr. Manjeet was, as many would recall, unmistakable in both presence and principle. He wore a ponytail with pride and a Hawaiian shirt with khakis with ease — the only two modes in which you would ever find him: the relaxed Manjeet of the street, and the robed Manjeet of the courtroom.

I first met him not in court, but in his chambers at Bangunan Yayasan Selangor. I was a young man then, still to begin my studies in law. My father, himself an admirer, brought me to see him — and I, already a motorbike enthusiast, was more starstruck by the fact that here was a man, a former Bar President, who rode a **Honda Shadow 600**, a biker-lawyer with a ponytail. He was, to my youthful eyes, nothing short of an idol.

And yet, Mr. Manjeet did not coddle my illusions. His words to me were simple and stern: ***"There are no shortcuts. Many thought they could take them, and they never practised law."*** That line, delivered without ceremony, became a compass that steered my journey through the legal world.

Years later, having returned from my studies with a puffed chest and a Barrister's certificate in hand, I again sought an audience with him — this time at his home in Bukit Damansara. I half expected praise, perhaps even an offer to read in chambers at his firm. Instead, he greeted me with the now-legendary line: ***"The first thing we need to do with you young fellas is make you vacuum the office. Bring you back to earth. Because when you start your own firm, who do you think is going to make the coffee and vacuum the carpets?"***

When I finally started my own practice in 2010, I found myself, quite literally, vacuuming the carpets — and smiling, remembering, that he was right.

He did not offer me a place then. What he did offer was far more valuable: he told me to see his dear friend of some 40 years, **Datuk Jagjit Singh**, who became my master, and thus began the true path of my learning. It was this kind of guidance — honest, unvarnished, and often sharp — that marked his mentorship.

He defended the most difficult cases — the Sosilawati murder trial, the Altantuya civil suit, the Nallakaruppan arms possession case, the former minister Mokhtar Hashim murder trial — and stood in the fire when others shrank from the heat. Lawyer **Sangeet Kaur Deo**, daughter of the much-missed Karpal Singh, who had opposed him in the Altantuya civil trial, remembered him as a distinguished lawyer renowned for his skilful cross-examination.

His courtroom advocacy was nothing short of excellence. **Datuk Baljit Singh Sidhu**, a spectacular criminal defence lawyer, once said, ***"His cross-examination of prosecution witnesses was an art and a joy (to watch)"***.

Mr Manjeet's cross-examinations were legendary — precise, cutting, and always with purpose. He often said, ***"Go for the jugular. Don't waste time with irrelevant questions."***

In that, he resembled the greats of old — precise, surgical, but even Mr Manjeet couldn't resist some theatrics. **Mr Melvin Selvam**, also a dear friend of Mr Manjeet, shared with me this anecdote. During the Sosilawati murder trial at the Shah Alam High Court, which Melvin had the pleasure of witnessing from the gallery- When Mr Manjeet cornered a prosecution witness for being dishonest, he said to the witness- ***"ada dengar English saying - what a tangled web we weave, when first we practise to deceive "***

This was just classic Manjeet Singh Dhillon with the gift of the language. At his recent Memorial at the Royal Lake Club, he was described, Mr Manjeet was a **wordsmith**. He was a skilled writer who expertly used language, often with a focus on creativity and eloquence.

It would be remiss of me not to speak of the defining episode that tested not only Mr. Manjeet's resolve, but the very relationship between the Bar and the Bench. In the tumultuous wake of the **1988 judicial crisis** — when a Lord President was removed, the court's seal reportedly vanished, and the rule of law trembled beneath executive force — Mr. Manjeet, then Secretary of the Bar Council, affirmed, what I can only refer to as perhaps the most significant **affidavit of the century sworn on 25th April, 1989**, an affidavit alleging misconduct by the then Acting Lord President.

For that, he was cited for contempt. The Supreme Court, by majority, found him guilty and imposed a fine. Yet one of their Lordships dissented, recognising the principled stand Mr. Manjeet had taken and cautioning against the chilling effect such a ruling might cast upon

institutional accountability. Mr. Manjeet bore the judgment with his usual stoicism but never surrendered the truth of what he saw or said.

Years later, in 2008, our late **Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi** took to the podium to announce what he called a new dawn — acknowledging the pain and loss of the affected judges and offering them ex gratia payments as a gesture of closure. The hall rose in standing ovation. But not Mr. Manjeet. In a piercing rejoinder, he wrote, “***The expression ‘ex gratia’ means nothing. It is a lawyer’s way of saying we were wrong but cannot say that openly, so we hide behind this small expression.***” For him, reconciliation without truth was cosmetic. He reminded us — as he so often did — that money could never restore a name, that honour once lost cannot be bought back in currency. “***You can give Salleh all the money in the world,” he wrote, “but he still remains a ‘sacked’ judge.***”

And he did not exclude himself from the reckoning. For it was not only the judges who bore the brunt of that crisis — it was also those who defended them. Mr. Manjeet was, as he once noted with quiet force, the only other person punished during that dark chapter. His fine, though nominal, was a scar carried for decades — and used against him, even sixteen years later, when it served as grounds to strike his name off the rolls of a fellow ASEAN Bar. But he bore it with dignity, because he believed — with unwavering clarity — that silence in the face of injustice is a betrayal of the law.

In his final words on the matter, he issued a challenge to all who celebrated reform: do not forget the full cast of that tragedy — not just those who were wronged, but those who stood beside them, and those whose conduct still awaits honest reckoning. In doing so, Mr. Manjeet reminded us that true closure cannot be built upon amnesia, and that the rule of law demands more than a press release or polite applause. It demands memory. It demands truth. And it demands men, I dare say, like him.

Mr. Manjeet could be confrontational, even difficult. But he was never dishonest. He spoke the truth, even when it wounded. And he paid the price for it often, not that it ever deterred him. He was a man who — in every public engagement, courtroom battle, and professional encounter — placed principle above popularity.

Fittingly, tributes poured in from across the legal and political spectrum upon Mr. Manjeet’s passing on **28th October 2024**. Among them was a particularly poignant message from the Prime Minister himself, **Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim**, who described Mr. Manjeet as not only a remarkable lawyer, but also a dear personal friend. In his words: “***As a close friend, I am deeply saddened by his departure. My heartfelt condolences once again to the family of the late Manjeet.***”

It is rare that one man earns both the admiration of the courtroom and the affection of the nation’s leaders — rarer still when that man earned it not through flattery or favour, but through integrity, courage, and the quiet force of his convictions.

In 2009, at a forum where a young lawyer rather brashly declared that law was a business, Mr. Manjeet rose and thundered: “***Being a lawyer is not a business — it’s a profession. If you think it’s a business, you are in the wrong profession.***” Such was his clarity of thought — and courage of conviction.

He lived without airs. He walked into clubs and courts the same way: on his own two feet, never expecting deference.

Above all, Mr. Manjeet was a true officer of the court — not just in title, but in spirit. His loyalty was to justice, not favour; his conscience owed allegiance only to the law. He may not have always been agreeable, but he was always authentic.

We, the members of this Bar, have lost a true warrior. A custodian of ethics. A brother-in-law in every meaningful sense.

There may never be another Manjeet Singh Dhillon. And that, perhaps, is the highest compliment one can pay.

May his memory endure in our words, his principles in our practice, and his courage in our courts.

Much obliged, My Lord.

Contributed by Ravinder Singh Dhaliwal.



Mohd Kharip Shah Bin Yusof
BC/M/1923
26 April 1952 – 26 October 2024

Allahyarham Mohd Kharip Shah Bin Yusof was born on 26 April 1952. He earned his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from University Technology Mara in 2009. He underwent his pupillage at Azmi & Associates under the guidance of Rasheed Khan Bin Mohd Idris, and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya on 19 March 2010.

At the time of his passing on 26 October 2024, Allahyarham was actively practising at Rao & Kamal. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

This morning, we are gathered here to pay tribute to our brothers and sisters of the Bar who had passed away. I am here to mourn the demise of my colleague, Encik Mohd Kharip Shah bin Yusof who left us on 26.10.2024.

BACKGROUND

Encik Kharip was born on 26.04.1952. He was a true and true kampung boy from Pengkalan Peguh, Ipoh. He was the eldest of six siblings. His father was a menial worker in the kampung whereas his mother was a homemaker.

EDUCATION

Encik Kharip received his primary school education at Pengkalan Peguh and proceeded to the Lower Secondary school at Sekolah Raja Chulan. He then completed his Upper Secondary school till Form 6 at Sekolah Alam Shah. He obtained his High School Certificate in 1971.

EMPLOYMENT

Due to financial constraints, Encik Kharip was unable to pursue his tertiary education. He needed to support his family being the eldest son. He had applied for many jobs and was finally accepted into Standard Chartered Bank. He commenced his career as a clerk and rose to be the Bank Manager at Standard Chartered before his retirement.

TERTIARY EDUCATION

Three to four years prior to his retirement, he embarked to pursue a degree in law at UiTM, on a part time basis. He obtained his degree and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Hight Court of Malaya on 19.03.2010. Encik Kharip joined Messrs. Rao & Kamal as a partner on 04.03.2011 till his demise on 26.10.2024.

OUR JOURNEY

The question begets, what do you take with you when you die? As crude as it sounds, you only take a good name. We don't take along our fame or riches when we step into the afterlife.

That was exactly what Encik Kharip took with him. His good name is all we have to carry his memory.

He was a good person. He was a good employer to all, a good friend to many, a confidante, always humble and polite and to me personally, he was my older brother. I could speak to him on anything at any time and he was always there to lend an ear.

I met him by chance in mid-2009. He was seated in the same court that I was in. I had a trial that day and during a stand down session, he approached me and introduced himself. My first impression was that he was a senior practitioner. I was misled by his thick white hair and his distinguished look. As was my wont, I immediately addressed him as sir. He retorted by saying that I was too kind and that he was just a Pupil in Chamber, I believe in Azmi & Co. He then addressed me as sir and from then on we continued calling each other sir to the very last moment.

When I broached the topic of Encik Kharip joining my firm as a Partner, he readily accepted without any question. He said it was his honour and I was humbled. He joined Rao & Kamal as a partner on 04.03.2011.

There was once I asked him ... "why law at a late stage?". He answered by saying that when he was working at the bank, he used to read in the newspapers about his seniors and juniors who used to study at Sekolah Alam Shah. They were somebody in life and had succeeded in their respective vocation. He wanted to emulate them and this drove him to obtain a tertiary education and that is the reason why he studied law. To him, he had achieved his goal and I always admired him for his tenacity. I personally would not have done so.

I remember sometime in 2021, Encik Kharip called me to discuss something important and that is when he said he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. I was flummoxed. He told me that doctors had mentioned that the cancer was at Stage 3 but could be medicated.

He was in and out of the hospital undergoing treatment and was seemingly doing better. I truly thought that he was on the road to recovery until a relapse in 2024. He fought to the very end. He succumbed to his illness on 26.10.2024. His youngest son was by his side when Encik Kharip took his last breath. He has left a mark in our lives. I will not forget my brother.

He leaves behind his beloved wife Puan Maziah Binti Ahmad, daughters Nur Aisyah and Nur Aida and sons, Ahmad Khusairi and Ahmad Syazwan.

My Lord,

Before I take leave, a quote by The Honourable Justice Eusoffe Abdoolcader;

"the young may die,

the old must die but the wisest know not when

Such is the order of nature and such the ways of providence

*that at the appointed hour and in the manner ordained, all living beings must pass beyond
the curtain of time“*

May Encik Kharip's soul rest in peace and his memories be a blessing.

Contributed by Jayananda Rao a/l Simmachalam.



Vitwat Sae Ng
BC/V/156
15 October 1968 – 3 November 2024

It is with deep sadness that I stand before this Court today to move the reference proceedings of the late Mr. Vitwat Sae Ng, a dear friend to us, loving husband and father to his family, and a brilliant legal mind.

Vitwat was a lawyer of exceptional intelligence and integrity. I first met him 11 years ago when we were both at our previous firm. We were colleagues in the same department. Even back then, it was clear that he possessed a rare clarity of thought, a deep commitment to the law, and a quiet confidence that earned the respect of all who worked with him.

Vitwat was driven and visionary. He went on to establish his own firm— Messrs. Vitwat, Wong & Lim— which is a testament to his dedication, leadership, and passion for justice. I had the privilege of working very closely with Vitwat on many cases. His sharp intellect, calm presence, and unwavering dedication to his clients and the law always stood out. He brought clarity to complexity and always pursued the right answer—not just the easy one.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with Vitwat will remember him for his intellect, humility, and kindness. What I will remember most are the deep, thoughtful conversations we shared about the law, the discussions that challenged me, inspired me, and often continued long after the working hours.

He leaves behind not only a legacy in the legal community, but also the warmth and camaraderie of someone who was more than a professional. He was a colleague, a friend, and a trusted confidant. Though he is no longer with us, Vitwat's legacy lives on—in the firm he built, the clients that he worked with, and the countless people who continue to be guided and inspired by his work. His presence will be deeply missed, but his spirit lives on in all who had the privilege to know him.

The bar has lost a talent, and we have lost a dear friend and a dear brother.

May he rest in peace.

Contributed by Chia How



Tun Mohamed Dzaiddin Hj Abdullah
BC/M/55
16 September 1937 – 11 July 2024

Our father, Tun Mohamed Dzaiddin Hj Abdullah was born on 16th September 1937 to parents of teachers in Arau, Perlis. He received his primary education at Malay School, Arau, Perlis, and had his secondary education at Sultan Abdul Hamid College in Alor Setar, Kedah. From 1956 to September 1957, he worked as a cub reporter for The Malay Mail covering the momentous moment prior to our Independence Day, before joining the Royal Malayan Police Force as an inspector with the Special Branch in 1958. He left for the UK in 1961 to read law and the Inns of Court.

Dzaiddin owed his exposure to the legal profession to late Tun Suffian, who then later, became his mentor. Having been called to the English Bar, becoming Barrister-at-Law at the Honourable Society of Middle Temple, Inns of Court, London, United Kingdom, in 1966, he was called to the Malaysian Bar in January 1967. He was in private practice for over 12 years practising both in Kuala Lumpur and Kota Bharu, Kelantan. He was elevated to the bench in 1979, first as Judicial Commissioner and 1982 as High Court Judge, Criminal Division in Kuala Lumpur. In 1984, Dzaiddin became a High Court Judge in Penang, back when Penang then like the rest of the country, experienced a strong surge in drug trafficking cases. He presided over several cases which caught the attention of international media and he was, at one point, known as “hanging” judge. He was calm and remained “man of few words” during these turbulent years.

In 1993, Dzaiddin came back to Kuala Lumpur and was appointed as the Federal Court judge, of which he remained until 2000, the year he was appointed as the Chief Justice of Malaysia. He retired in 2003. He later joined Skrine as legal consultant, the same firm he had been with as a pupil back in the 1960s. As a law practitioner, he continued to do some arbitration work after his retirement. In 2004, Dzaiddin was appointed by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong as chairman of the Royal Commission to Enhance the Operation and Management of the Royal Malaysia Police. The Report was submitted in 2005 to the Government. The core proposal was the establishment of a body called the Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct Commission (IPCMC), which was later replaced by the Independent Police Conduct Commission (IPCC) in 2023.

Dzaiddin was Chairman of Bursa Malaysia from 2004 until 2015. He was Chairman of Tun Suffian Foundation, and sat on a board of trustee at Yayasan Sapura. He was also the founder and first president of The Malaysia Middle Temple Alumni Association and Chairman of Deutsche Bank Malaysia Bhd.

In his free time then and more so after his retirement from the bench, he spent a lot of time on the golf courses and watching golf tournaments, home and abroad. However, his golf handicap was always “maintained” in the high teens, given how long and often he had played golf.

He enjoyed reading, and he mostly read non-fiction ones. He liked comics and used to collect the Punch magazine from UK, which ceased publication in 1992. He also loved music and theaters and like the rest of his generation, he enjoyed listening to Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Andy Williams, Ray Conniff and ABBA, to name a few.

As a father, he was also the disciplinarian and has his rules, especially when we were younger.

As we look back on the years, we realise that, although our younger selves wouldn't have agreed, we too have learned to be principled from our father to a great extent, and we are proud of it.

We miss him dearly, every day.

Contributed by Nadjihah Mohd Dzaidin(daughter)

“To Honour You” by Connie F. Kiefer Byrd

To honour you...

I get up every day and take a breath.
And start another day without you in it.

To honour you...

I laugh and love with those who knew your smile
And the way your eyes twinkled with mischief and secret
knowledge.

To honour you...

I take the time to appreciate everyone I love,
I know now there is no guarantee of days or hours spent in their
presence.

To honour you...

I listen to music you would have liked,
And sing at the top of my lungs, with the windows rolled down

To honour you...

I take chances, say what I feel, hold nothing back,
Risk making a fool of myself, dance every dance.
You were my light, my heart, my gift of love, from the very highest
source.

So every day, I vow to make a difference, share a smile, live, laugh
and love.

Now I live for us both, so all I do,
I do to honour you..



Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee
Unit 4.02, Level 4
Wisma Badan Peguam Malaysia
No. 2, Leboh Pasar Besar
50050 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 603-2693 1440 | Fax: 603-2693 1441
www.klbar.org.my |