

Sinnu Marappan
(14th April 1955 – 1st September 2011)



Sinnu was born on the 14th of April 1955 to parents Marappan and Pappayee. However, his unwillingness to leave Malaysia led to him being raised by his uncle, Sinnoo and his family. He was taken in as the son his uncle had always wanted. He grew up in Cameron Highlands amongst the rose bushes and lush greenery that he was so fond of even in his later years. He completed both his primary and secondary education in Cameron Highlands Convent School and later pursued his Form 6 education in Pahang. Upon completion of his Form 6, Sinnu secured a place in Universiti Malaya to pursue a degree in Arts. After successfully attaining his degree he enlisted in the army

for a brief period.

It was in the army that Sinnu learnt a lot about principles and discipline. He often regaled his children with tales about his short stint in the army. Each story was narrated with passion and vigour but ultimately ended with the same lesson. Be grateful for what you have because you have a blessed life. Although Sinnu did appear to have led a tough upbringing, he always felt that it had provided him with greater lessons and virtues in life. He then began seeking employment and was recruited by TAR College and Stamford College respectively. He met his wife Sundri during his employment at Stamford College. At the tender age of 24, Sinnu was offered a position in the Malaysian Customs Department. At the same time he received a scholarship from the Government to pursue his post graduate studies in economics in Australia but unfortunately, he had to turn down the offer due to financial constraints. He always considered his employment at the Customs department instrumental in his developing his passion for Law. In 1991, he began reading law part-time, graduated in 1994 and was called to the Malaysian Bar in quick succession in 1996. He had served Customs for 16 years before opting for an optional retirement in 1996 as Assistant Director of Customs.

During this time he married Sundri on the 15th of March 1987. The family welcomed daughter Deeviana on the 1st of March 1988 and Ginaesan on the 15th of January 1991. Sinnu at the age of 41 embarked on a new career path in law. He started practicing at Messrs. Seah, Balan and Ravi in 1997. Thereafter, Sinnu established his

own practice, which was his pride and joy, in Port Klang under the name of Kim Seng Sinnu & Co.

Sinnu was always stern and quiet at home, preferring to keep his emotions to himself. Sinnu was very close to his in-laws, especially Sundri's mother. He adored her cooking and valued her care for him. He was never considered a son-in-law but a son instead. Sinnu had been at her side throughout her illness and had helped nurse her. He had valued friendships greatly as he did not have many family members by his side and cherished the big family that his marriage to Sundri had brought him. Sinnu loved gatherings and occasional get-togethers with his friends. He was a live-wire and lit any room with his presence. He had a unique way of etching his memory in the hearts of everyone he met with his wit and humour. He treasured his company as if they were his own family. He often gathered family members together and always taught his children about keeping relationships growing. His most memorable message was never to let family ties sever with his generation as he had worked so hard to keep a big family united.

His efforts were not in vain as family members close and distant alike cherished him beyond words and loved him beyond measure.

As much as Sinnu was a treasured friend, beloved husband, cherished brother and so on, he was also the perfect husband and father. He loved his two children and wife more than anything else in the world and strove to provide more than he could for them. He saw his past in their tears and he saw his future in their smiles.

Moving on to his life PP Sinnu (Past President) was a member of The Rotary club of Bandar Sunway since 2000 and served as the Club's President in the Rotary year 2002/2003. He had held various Board positions at the Club and District in his 11 years of illustrious service to Rotary. The 'Leg for the Legless' Project pioneered during Sinnu's presidency in the club remains a flagship project. His approach was hands-on and his immense rapport with HTAR authorities led to the artificial limb project finding a permanent home in the hospital premises. The project also involved travelling to Kolkatta, India for the transfer of technology and this he did at his personal expenses. Certainly this project placed an immense demand on his professional and personal time to which he had never complained. He was a driving force to the artificial limb project of the Club for more than 10 years - hundreds of poor people are walking happy with their artificial limbs today, thanks to the unwavering passion of this man. He truly believed in this particular project and held the chairing position working his way through the years trying to better and improve its execution. The rotary Club of Bandar Sunway

was acknowledged for his effort in year 2005-2006 when the Club received Rotary International Significant Achievement Award project. Sinnu leaves behind a legacy to humanitarian service - in the history of the Rotary Club of Bandar Sunway. PP Sinnu was also one of the few club members who was very fluent in Bahasa Malaysia which was really useful when speeches were to be made for official events and when the local TV and press sought interviews on the club's activities.

One poignant incident came to light a few days after his untimely demise. A nursing student had approached him and sought the club's help to fund her studies. Since The Rotary Club Bandar Sunway had no suitable programme in place to take care of such requests, PP Sinnu decided to come up with funds from his own pocket to assist her. The nursing student, who is now a recipient of the Government's PTPN loan, called up and offered to return the monies (unaware of his passing!). We wonder how many more such deeds of compassion and kindness had been undertaken by PP Sinnu.

PP Sinnu was always an asset to Rotary Club of Bandar Sunway during projects but even more so during fellowship sessions. He was the live-wire of the group and constantly kept all in stitches with his renditions of old songs and witty proverbs. His jokes are unparalleled. His wit and humour attracts everyone.

He had become the embodiment of love and the core of newfound relationships that strengthened beyond measure. The man that had given so much of himself to everyone and in turn received the love and respect he truly deserved. This man is now filled with serenity, enveloped in peace, blanketed with love and sheltered in comfort in the arms of God himself.

He demised on 1st September 2011 on Thursday at 2.40pm

Mr. Sinnu is survived by his wife and 2 children. His son, Ginaesan Sinnu is now pursuing his bachelor's degree in **ACTUARIAL SCIENCE** at Drake University in Iowa (US) and is scheduled to graduate in 2014. His daughter Deeviana Sinnu has completed her bachelor's degree in **PSYCHOLOGY** in 2011 at Curtin University in Perth and is now pursuing her Masters in **CRIMINOLOGY** at Edith Cowan University in Perth. Deeviana chose to do her Masters in Criminology as a personal tribute to her father who always desired her to pursue law and thus married both her background in psychology and her father's desire of legal studies. Both children hope dearly that their efforts and achievements are being watched upon by their father up in heaven. He lived for his children and now they live for him.

I would like to thank my family members and friends namely Mr.Pani (Brother), Mr. Raveendranath, Dato Ram Nair, Dr. Thirunavukarasu, Mr. Divakaran, Mr. Manoharan, Ms. Latha Madhavan, Ms. Sree Kala Nambiar and Ms. Sheireena Kursheed Mohd. Ibrahim for attending this function. It means a lot to my family and I that we have their constant support and love during these difficult times. Wherever Sinnu is I'm sure his touched by the love you shower him. Thank you once again.