## <u>Devano Hasbi</u> (Demised – 29<sup>th</sup> December 2010)



Devano Hasbi, the eldest of two siblings, was born on the 6th of December, 1974 in Sibu, Sarawak. He obtained his primary and secondary education at the Sacred Heart Sibu before being a student at the IIUM Law Matriculation Center in 1992. He graduated on the 14th of November, 1999 with the Bachelor of Laws Degree from International Islamic University Malaysia.

He started his pupilage under the care of Mr Vinod Sharma himself, under the firm The Law Offices of Vinod Sharma & Co. During pupilage, he was exposed to commercial and banking litigation. He was finally called to the Bar on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2000 after successfully completing his pupilage.

Devano delved right into his passion with Messrs Tan Kim Soon & Co in 2000 and then with Messrs Wan Shahrizal, Hari & Co throughout 2007 and 2008. With the heart of gold and the nerve of steel, he finally opened up his own firm in early 2009, Messrs Devano Hasbi & Co. located at Level 3 Central Park Sunway Damansara, Kota Damansara.

He was known as the big tall Malay lawyer who was also well conversant in English & other Chinese dialects due to his mix parentage. A true gentleman at heart, he found it is his responsibility to help others when they were in need and despite of his "lawyer by nature" physical appearance, he mixed well with others irrespective of their race and religious background.

He was a very enterprising man. When he was a student at International Islamic University Malaysia, he ventured into a number of short-term projects. One of them was when the university relocated from their PJ campus to its Gombak campus, he and his very good friend, Wan Hazidin rented 2 vans and 2 lorries including drivers to assist students move their stuff, as the University only provided a bus. It was supposed to be an easy job whereby the students load and unload their stuff themselves. But being gentlemen, these two guys had to assist the female students and mind you, only female students, to load and unload their stuff. Towards the end of the 3rd day, they were nearly out of strength but the money they made out of this little venture made up for the tiredness.

They also went into burger and coney dog business within IIUM campus until they were chased out by the security. He even provided laundry services to the students by providing a washing machine for their use, for a price of course.

The most funny story heard from Hazidin of their entrepreneur adventures, is the Goreng Pisang business at Danau Kota. Apparently, their goreng pisang never did get to the right crispiness no matter how hard they tried and a soggy, oily goreng pisang would never sell. They closed shop in less than a week and they donated all the equipment they bought to one Kelantanese family living near their stall.

Lastly, who says size does not matter? Anyone who knows Devano would remember that he was a big guy. During his university time he lived at a Bangsar hostel and he rode as a

pillion on Hazidin's Honda Cub (C70) to commute between their Bangsar hostel and their PJ campus. As everyone knows, the road to PJ through Bangsar, where BSC is now located, is quite hilly. So, one can just imagine how this little motorcycle carried Hazidin and Devano up those hills. No wonder they were always late for their classes.

Despite being big and fierce looking, Devano had a kind and big heart. He will be there for whoever that needs help and he would stand next to you without asking for anything in return later on. To quote Hazidin's words "I have never met any other person like Devano, he was an angel sent by God to me. He helped me through my lowest point in my life. He was there to help me as much as he could. He was my university mate, my house mate and he is the brother that I always wanted but God loves him much more than me."

He leaves behind his wife Puan Kartini Abd Rahim and two sons, Irfan Devano and Ehsan Devano ages 7 and 6 respectively.

Kartini Bt. Hasbi & Siti Z. Kasim