



In Memory of

Chin Ei Khim

Josephine Lily Pereira

Mohamaed Hazul B. Dato'
Hassan

Mohd Suradi B. Makhtar

K. Ramakrishnan

Rashid Ali Sickander

Dato' Seri Salleh B.
Mat Som

Sonni Pillai

Tan Jing Phong

Walter Wilfred Abraham



Chin Ei Khim

(Demised - 18th December 2007)



Chin Ei Khim who hailed from Miri, Sarawak read law in England. After completing her certificate in Legal Practice in 1987, she was called to both the Bar in Malaya and Brunei Darrussalam. Thereafter she practiced with the law firm of M/s Yong Wong & Chin in Brunei until 1995. She returned to Petaling Jaya, Malaysia with her husband and young son where she set up her own practice of M/s E K Chin & Associates which engaged in conveyancing and general litigation practice.

Chin's kindness and generosity and her ever-ready willingness to help all those who sought her assistance endeared her to all her clients.

Sadly, Chin Ei Khim passed away on 18th December 2007 after battling with renal failure for four and a half years. She is dearly missed by her family and friends.

N. D. Gong

Josephine Lily Pereira
(Demised - 23rd August 2008)



My Lord, 48 years in the scheme of things is indeed a short time. But that was all my dear friend Josephine Lily Pereira had on this Earth. Born on 18th June 1960 she departed on 23rd August, 2008 after a painful and merciless battle with cancer.

It has been said the greatest mystery of life is that man who is mortal goes through life thinking he is immortal. Josephine like all of us did not for one moment think that she would be robbed of life so soon when there was so much left to be done as wife, mother, lawyer and citizen of the world. Left she did and we are now gathered here today to make some kind of sense of the hours Josephine spent with us.

Josephine graduated from the University of Malaya with a degree in law in 1984. It is a little more than 2 decades ago that I remember Josephine joining the firm of the then Messrs Rashid and Lee as a chambering student brimming with optimism and enthusiasm. It was while working in M/s Rashid and Lee that I became acquainted with Josephine.

Josephine is indeed one of a rare breed of people who quietly and unassumingly got the work done and indeed done well. She did not court, or want or need fame or material success. Instead what is synonymous with Josephine is her kindness, honesty, diligence, and high octane commitment to doing whatever she had to do, well. With courage Josephine defended strongly what she believed in regardless of the personal cost to her. Her personal preference was to work in the background quietly and with precision as a solicitor. Josephine will always be remembered as a solicitor par excellence. Her work spoke for itself as it was always of a standard anyone would be proud of.

Josephine ventured out from practice and joined the commercial world, working in MBF Finance and Kwong Yik Bank before moving on to the then Arab Malaysian Merchant Bank, where she met her husband Arunachalam Muthusamy. Our departed colleague put her career on the back burner while concentrating on raising a family.

Josephine came back into practice after having 2 children and joined the firm of M/s Murali B Pillai and Associates before finally breaking off and setting up a practice of her own Messrs J Pereira where she continued practicing as a solicitor right up until the day she succumbed to her illness.

Life was not just her career and her family. Josephine always felt a need to give back to society and in the last few months Josephine together with my son and I set up a soup kitchen in Desa Mentari to feed the urban poor and teach the children in the area. This we did once a week. One of the things that brought her great joy in her last few months was participating in this project and she would in fact cook the food herself although she was by then in considerable pain. That was the Josephine I knew, strong, determined and giving right to the very end.

To the family of our learned colleague I do hope you will continue to share the ideals Josephine believed in and keep her in your memory. To Arjoon and Devighna remember your mother always as having given her best to the world sometimes at her own expense and she would surely hope as you continue to grow to remember to give your very best always and live life to the fullest.

Viva enim mortuorum in memoria vivorum est posita

The life of the dead is retained in the memory of the living. (Cicero)

Juliana Solomon

Mohamed Hazul Bin Dato' Hassan
(Demised - 15th March 2008)



The late Mohamed Hazul bin Dato' Hassan was born in Pulau Pinang in 1968. He obtained his primary and secondary education at St. John Institution Kuala Lumpur before pursuing his law studies at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM).

Mohamed Hazul bin Dato' Hassan was called to the Bar on 30th December, 1995. He practiced with several firms before setting up his own practice under the name of Messrs Mohamed Hazul & Co.

A gentlemen since his students days he was a cheerful person and who made anyone around him feel the warmth, sincerity and honesty in his friendship. His sincerity touched his surroundings and friends which will be missing very much. A person who was very concerned about cleanliness and self grooming he was always dressed in proper and fine attire befitting a gentleman and a solicitor.

Mohamed Hazul bin Dato' Hassan leaves behind his wife Pn. Rahadiana and two children.

Well liked by all, the Selangor Bar has lost a young and able member in the passing of Mohamed Hazul bin Dato' Hassan.

Condolences to the family of Mohamed Hazul bin Dato' Hassan.

Jamaludin Ibrahim

Mohd Suradi B. Makhtar
(Demised - 21st October 2007)



The late Mohd Suradi Bin Makhtar graduated from International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM) and was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1996.

He started his legal practice with Messrs Abu Talib Shahrom & Zahari and then he joined Messrs Wan Haron Sukri & Nordin in 1999. In December 2000 he became a partner at Messrs Mohd Yusof Endut & Associates and continued his legal practice until his demise on 21st October 2007 at the age of 36.

The late Mohd Suradi was diligent and upheld the fine practises of the Bar. His vast experiences in and conveyancing and litigation had made a priceless contribution to the legal field. He will be sadly missed by his colleagues and family.

Wan Mohd. Kamaluddin Bin Wan Yussof

K. Ramakrishnan
(Demised - 23rd October 2008)



Born on 29th September 1941 in Sungkai to a Rubber Plantation Supervisor and his housewife, Ramakrishnan was the youngest child of 5 children. He lost his father at the age of 4 years and this prompted his mother, Madam Janaki to work as a rubber tapper to support her family. Madam Janaki always gave Mr. Ramakrishnan the best even if the family could not afford luxurious food at the material time.

Ramakrishnan completed his primary and secondary education at Methodist English School in Tanjung Malim. Subsequent to that he worked as a Temporary Teacher at the same school from 1962 – 1967. Ramakrishnan joined Radio Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) as a Broadcaster in 1967. He was also a renowned Sports commentator and was well known for his deep voice. He married Madam Sabidha Devi in 1970.

In 1974, whilst still a Broadcaster, he took just 3 months no-pay leave to study for the Higher School Certificate which he passed in that year on his first attempt. This paved way for him to pursue a Degree in Law. He was admitted into the Honourable Society of the Lincoln's Inn on 21st November 1975 and went on to read Law and was called to the British Bar on 27th November 1979. He was in fact the only Malaysian who passed the first year Law Examination held in 1976.

His determination to become a Lawyer knew no bounds as he basically read his first two years of Law whilst working at RTM without proper tutoring. Upon being called to the British Bar, Mr. Ramakrishnan returned to Malaysia to complete his chambering and was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1980. He was a Partner in the Firm Messrs. Ibrahim Moideen, Rama and Partners where he stamped his name as a good Litigator with a flair for the Law. Mr. Ramakrishnan was invited to the Industrial Relations Bench in November 1993 which he duly accepted. In April 1994, he was transferred to the Industrial Court in Penang where he was made in charge of Penang, Alor Setar (Perlis), Perak and also sat in Johor, Terengganu, Kelantan and Sarawak.

Many people envied his energy and passion when it came to delivering his tasks as the Chairman of the Industrial Court. His position as the Chairman of the Industrial Court required him to leave his wife and three (3) children behind in Kuala Lumpur, as he had travel non stop to the respective Courts to hear cases. He would drive down to Kuala Lumpur on Saturday afternoons after work to be with his family and drove back to Penang on the Sunday afternoon. He never employed a driver to drive him around as he loved driving his own car.

Mr. Ramakrishnan presided over cases without fear or favour. He kept reminding Lawyers and Union Representatives who appeared before him that one should not fail his client and that justice must be upheld. He was a very thorough Chairman, never leaving any stones unturned. He was a very strict Chairman who insisted that Lawyers and Union Representatives appearing before him are well prepared for the Trial. He himself would read all the pleadings and the supporting Documents well before presiding over any matter. Despite all the stress, fatigue and pressure which came with the job and the traveling, he never once complained. He was always full of ideas on how to better the Industrial Relations procedures, processes and the Law. When handing down Awards or Decisions, he always ensured that no one party who deserved justice was deprived of the same.

Mr. Ramakrishnan also sat as the Chairman of the SOCSO Appellate Board from 1994 – 2000. As the Chairman of the Appellate Board, his decisions were always based on fairness, equity and common sense. He always ensured that deserving employees received protection and assistance from SOCSO.

Mr. Ramakrishnan's colourful career at the Industrial Court came to an end when he refused a further extension to his contract in January 2005, having served the Industrial Relations Bench for over 11 years. In February 2005, a day after his last day of work as the Chairman of the Industrial Court, he joined his son, Mr. Mohan Ramakrishnan in their firm, Messrs Ramakrishnan & Associates in Petaling Jaya. As the Partner of Messrs Ramakrishnan & Associates, he remained the fountain of knowledge, refusing to charge any professional fees to clients and others who met him for legal advise and opinion.

He was an active speaker at various Seminars and Conventions after his retirement. He simply wanted to share his knowledge with others. He was a sports enthusiast, especially football and cricket. His favourite teams were Arsenal and Perak on the local front.

He passed away peacefully in the morning of 23rd October 2008 at the University Hospital, Petaling Jaya where he underwent surgery for cervical spondylosis. He leaves behind his wife Madam Sabidha Devi, children Ms. Hemalatha (Astro), Mr. Mohan (Ramakrishnan & Associates) and Ms. Nishalini (Malaysian Trade and Industry Organisation).

A prominent Industrial Relations practitioner Mr. V.K. Raj describes Mr. Ramakrishnan:-

“He was a Judicious minded Chairman. He went to great length to mete out justice to both employees and employers.”

A note arrived at the residence of Mr. K. Ramakrishnan on his funeral from Mr. K.K. Siritharan, the General Secretary of National Union of Employees in Companies Manufacturing Rubber Products Executive Council which reads :-

“Mr. Ramakrishnan was respected amongst the worker and has conducted himself without fear or favour and acted professionally when handing down Court Award. However he had a soft heart towards the welfare of the workers. His death is a great loss to the working class and to the country. His services and dedication would not be forgotten and shall be cherished by the workers forever.”

Mr Ramakrishnan may have passed off but his wisdom remains alive in the legal fraternity.

Mohan Ramakrishnan

Rashid Ali Sickander
(Demised - 18th August 2001)



Rashid Ali Sickander was born on 1. 8.1948 in humble surroundings in the village of Keelayore, Ramnad District, South India. He was the 3rd child among six siblings.

At the tender age of 7, he was sent to then Malaya to stay with his uncle in Tangkak, Johore. Deprived of a normal family life from such a young age Rashid Ali started primary school in Tangkak destined not to be forever put under the yoke of poverty. His daily routine till the age of 15 was school by day, work at his uncle's provision shop in the afternoon and evenings and studies at night.

At the age of 16 he was accepted into Malacca High School where he successfully negotiated his MCE. He thereafter was offered the post of Court Interpreter due to his fluency and ability in Tamil, Malay and English.

It was during his stint at the Lower and High Courts in Malacca that the love for the Law blossomed. He then joined Bernama as a stringer in 1970 at the crimes desk which also led him back to court life where he covered daily happenings in the various criminal trials back then.

Rashid Ali then took the bold step of flying off to London in 1975 to read Law at Lincolns. Whilst in London he continued to serve as a stringer with Bernama at the agency's London Bureau.

In London Rashid Ali not only read law but he also found the love of his life ,Biby, a Malaysian girl who at that time was studying nursing there. They got married in 1976 and a year later in May 1977 Rashid Ali's first son was born in London.

After qualifying Rashid Ali decided to return to Malaysia where in 1978 he commenced his pupillage with the eminent counsel Y M Raja Aziz Addruse. Rashid Ali was called to the Bar in 1979 and subsequently practiced in Kuala Lumpur. He then decided to set up on his own and practiced as Rashid Ali & Co. in 1982 in Malacca and mostly took up criminal and civil litigation matters.

In 1992, Rashid Ali decided to cease practice and joined a property developer, Dwtasik Corporation, as a Legal Adviser which post he held till 1997. He also used this time to obtain his Diploma in Shariah Legal Practice (D.S.LP) from HUM, Kuala Lumpur. But the lure of practice at the Bar was much too great to resist and he recommenced Rashid Ali & Co. in Klang in 1997 till his untimely death on 18.8.2001 due to a stroke. He was 53 years old.

Rashid Ali was always a keen member and participant in the various committees and activities of both the Selangor and Malacca Bar.

He leaves behind his wife Madam Biby, his three sons Muhammad Rafique an Advocate & Solicitor, Muhammad Razlan a Lecturer in Journalism in Lim Kok Wing University, Muhammad Redzwan, a Doctor in Sabah and the youngest a girl Rashidah Tasneem who is currently pursuing her degree in Hospitality & Tourism in the University of Sunderland, UK.

Rashid Ali had always placed much importance in education and acquisition of knowledge. He was a disciplined and hardworking man, qualities which he instilled in his children from an early age. The success of his children is testimony of this fact.

He will be sadly missed by all those who knew him. May his soul rest in peace.

**Muhammad Rafique
Bin Rashid Ali**

Dato' Seri Salleh Bin Mat Som
(Demised - 16th July 2008)



Salleh Mat Som was born on 30th December, 1948 to a poor family. Life in early childhood was never comfortable. Nothing was adequate and had to be shared among 15 siblings. Nevertheless, with a strict and disciplined upbringing, humble and modest living, he completed his secondary education at Anderson School, Ipoh, Perak.

Salleh Mat Som as a young boy; had always aspired to become a lawyer. His aspiration had to be put on hold due to limited resources. With only a Senior Cambridge Certificate, Salleh Mat Som started as a clerk in a government department.

Nothing could put a stop to his eagerness in achieving his childhood dream and ambition. Salleh Mat Som joined PDRM in 1970, a stepping stone he thought would get him nearer to achieving and fulfilling his ambition. Awarded a JPA scholarship, Salleh Mat Som left for the UK in 1976 to read law and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn. Upon his return in 1979, he read in the Chambers of Messrs K. C. Chai & Co. and was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1981.

Bonded by the JPA scholarship, Salleh Mat Som faithfully and devotedly stayed loyal to PDRM, till the very last day of his 35 years in office. Salleh Mat Som loved the training and strict regime of the force.

Salleh Mat Som was best remembered in PDRM as the CID Director (his last posting was the Internal Security and Public Order Director) for the high profile cases he was working on. Salleh Mat Som was a man of discipline and integrity. In the course of his duties, he stuck to the principle that he is solely responsible to the law and the law itself.

Salleh Mat Som had a short stint in the corporate sector, the National Aerospace Defence Industries, after retirement from the government service. In 2007, Salleh Mat Som untirelessly devoted himself to setting up his own law firm – Messrs M. S. Salleh & Associates, which saw him almost fulfilling his dream and ambition.

However fate dealt a cruel blow, when in the same year, Salleh Mat Som was diagnosed with renal cancer. He was bedridden in December, 2007 until his untimely and premature demise at the age of 59 years 6 ½ months on 16th July, 2008. Salleh Mat Som fell short of realising his dreams. No one understands why something like this would befall a man, who had so much potential to contribute to the society.

Salleh Mat Som leaves a son and his loyal and faithful wife of 32 years, Datin Seri Rohana Binti Ahmad, who stood fiercely by him through and through, both in good and bad times.

Datin Seri Rohana Binti Ahmad

Sonni Pillai
(Demised - 18th June 2007)



What has fallen on me is indeed a melancholic duty to say a few words in tribute to the memory of my friend, the late Mr Sonni Pillai, for whom the bell tolled on the 18th June 2007. His name had been for a few years, at the top of the seniority list of Advocates and Solicitors in Malaya, having been called to the English Bar from Gray's Inn on the 2nd February 1951.

He was probably best known as the internationally recognized Secretary of Penang City Hall which position he held for almost 2 decades from the late 50s. In those days the Mayor of Penang was elected. Mayors came and went but Sonni Pillai provided continuity in the efficient running of the City of Penang in effect as its *de facto* Mayor as it were.

Sonni Pillai was born a Muslim, of a Muslim Burmese mother. His father, Mr Pillai was an Advocate and Solicitor practising in Penang. Sonni was on a holiday in Ceylon, as it then was, when the Japanese invaded Malaya and he was marooned in Ceylon for the duration of the Japanese occupation of Malaya. He studied in University in Ceylon majoring in English Literature, working his way through college *inter alia* as a newspaper reporter. After the war, he went to England and read law from Gray's Inn. Among his contemporaries in London who became his close friends were people like the late Tun Abdul Razak, the late Tan Sri Taib Andak and he was particularly close to his co-Penangite, the late Justice Tan Sri Eusoffe Abdoolcader. On his return to Malaya in 1951, he joined his father's firm and sometime later with some of his contemporaries established a firm called Pillai, Lim, Lee and Huang which became a well-known legal firm in Penang with a branch in Kota Bharu. It was sometime later that he moved on to take up the position as Secretary of the Penang City Hall. In the early 70s; Sonni moved on to the United States to teach. Later he had a teaching stint in the Hague, Holland, before accepting a senior position in legal drafting in Hong Kong. He returned to Malaysia in the mid 70s and worked with me and the late Mr Ng Ek Teong and the late Tan Sri C Selvarajah in Messrs Ng Ek Teong & Partners. Later, in semi-retirement he opened the firm of Sonni Pillal and Associates, largely attending to uncontested banking and conveyancing

practice as an associate.

Sonni Pillai was taken ill on the 18th June 2007 and peacefully passed on in the early afternoon of that day. He is survived by his wife, Puan Zarina Din, his only sibling, his sister Ms Sybil Curtis who lives in the United States of America, and a whole host of friends who knew him to be a warm, very learned and highly respected member of the community.

With the background of English Literature, from his days in University in Ceylon, he kept in close touch and developed his knowledge and interest in English Literature to such an extent that he was recognized by most, if not all of his friends, as the most knowledgeable person, outside academia, in respect of English Literature. He also had a good command of Latin, good enough for him to point out errors in the poems that the late Tan Sri Eusoffe Abdoolcader used to publish in the newspapers in tribute to his Demised wife on each anniversary of her passing on. That he could do that, demonstrated both his knowledge of Latin and the close affectionate relationship he had with the late Judge.

Sonni Pillai had a dry sense of humour and had a huge reservoir of anecdotes based on his many active years going back to his student days, on which reservoir he tapped making conversations with him scintillating. What was said by one of the learned members of the Bar, some years ago, in moving a reference, a tribute to another one of my friends at the Bar, has equal application to Sonni Pillai: having a conversation with him was a feast and his ready humorous wit was the wine for the feast!

Sonni was a kind, affectionate and a very warm and likeable person, a good man.

Shakespeare In "As You Like It" talks of,

*"Finding tongues in trees
Books In rushing brooks
Sermons in stones
And good In everything"*

What more, the life of a good man. Sonni Pillai's life was indeed a sermon, a full useful life that we should be thankful for and that should inspire us, we who are left behind.

He has now gone, leaving that sermon that was his life, leaving behind good memories for all who knew him.

In respect of his passing on, on the 18th June 2007, we can say,

*"and so dies another wave on the shores of life whispering its brief story
into
the sands of time
And a gentle spirit has crossed the bar to land on a silent shore
Where the billows break no more nor the tempest roar".*

But those of us who were close to him should not grieve in that,

*"The souls of the righteous
Are in the hands of God
There shall no evil come to them
There they are at peace".*

My Lord, on behalf of the Bar, I tender our deepest condolences to Puan Zarina Din and to Ms Sybil Curtis. My Lord, I respectfully move that a copy of these proceedings be deposited in the archives of this Court and copy of it be extended to each, Puan Zarina Din and Ms Sybil Curtis

Honorable Retired Judge Dato' V.C. George

Tan Jing Phong
(Demised -1st March 2007)



JP started his career as a school teacher in industrial art and design. At age of 30, he went to Wales for a Masters degree in English and continued as a teacher for a couple of years. However his urge for further knowledge soon saw him giving up a comfortable school life and he went to Holborn Tutors to pursue his legal studies. JP was called to the Bar in August 1988 fulfilling his ambition and calling of becoming a lawyer.

Throughout his 20 years of practice as a sole proprietor, he maintained and upheld the principles of honesty and integrity which he used as his guiding light.

As a person, JP was candid, jovial, genuine, humble, contented and ever willing to go an extra mile for friends. Following a short illness, JP departed last year and he leaves behind Bee Bee, his loving wife and Vanessa, his loving child who is much influenced by him and has become a lawyer and currently working overseas.

Other than his family, JP will be dearly missed and remembered by his friends at the Bar.

Josephine Lai Shuk Mee

Walter Wilfred Abraham
(Demised - 17th August 2008)



Walter Wilfred Abraham was born in Taiping on 30th November 1919. He was the eldest son of Mr & Mrs Jacob Abraham. His father was a government servant. Walter's schooling was in ACS, Teluk Intan. He left in 1938 to study medicine in Hong Kong. However, the war interrupted his ambition to be a doctor. During the Japanese Occupation, he worked as a Japanese Language teacher in Ipoh.

Walter married Grace Sankey in 1943. After the war, he worked as a clerk in the Ipoh Road Transport Department till 1947, and, then, became an officer in the Trade Union Department and was transferred to Malacca in 1949 and worked in this capacity till 1958. He was promoted in January 1959 as Assistant Registrar of Societies and transferred to Johore Bharu, where he served for about 10 years. Whilst he was serving in Johore Bharu, he decided to pursue his law studies, and read for the Bar and did his Part 1 exams whilst still in Johore Bharu. In 1963, he went to England to sit for his Bar finals. He returned from England and continued to remain in Government Service in Johore Bharu. He, in the meantime, was called to the Singapore Bar. In 1969, he came to Kuala Lumpur as Deputy Registrar of Societies, until his retirement in November 1974. He then was appointed as a Magistrate at the courts in Jalan Duta and then at Kajang Magistrates Court where he worked till November 1979, after which he took his second retirement and went into private practice under the name and style of Abraham & Partners and later as a consultant with Abraham Ooi & Partners, until his retirement early in 2008.

Walter Abraham was an avid sportsman and played soccer and hockey and his later passion was golf. He is the proud donor of the Walter Abraham Trophy, which is the challenge trophy members of the Bar vie for each year.

Walter left practice due to ill health and passed away on 17th August 2008, aged 88. His two sons are practicing lawyers as well as his grandson, Sunil.

Wilfred Abraham

Reference for the following members have been carried out by other state bars.



Dato' S.P. Veloo
(Demised-23rd May 2007)
(Late Dato'S.P.Veloo's reference was done by KL Bar)



Major (Rtd) Abdul Kadir Bin Abdul Ghani
(Demised-13th March 2008)
(Late Major's reference was done by Pahang Bar)



T. Kuhanandan
(Demised-1st Septmber 2008)
(Late Kuhanandan's reference is to be done by KL Bar)

***Deeply Missed &
Forever In Our
Hearts***

*'May Their
Souls
Rest In Peace'*

Selangor Bar Committee
No.41, Jalan Bola Jaring 13/15,
Seksyen 13, 40100, Shah Alam
Selangor Darul Ehsan.
Tel: 03-55196219 Fax: 03-55199037
Email: secretariat@sgorbar.org
Website: www.selangorbar.org

