

Another member of the Kirkby family passes on.

**R.I.P. PARAVATHY KUMARASAMY 52-54**  
9-5-2016

*We bade farewell to our beloved wife, mum  
and grandma on 9th May, 2016*

**PARAVATHY  
KUMARASAMY**  
(Kirkby College, UK. 1952-54)

*Formerly of:  
Convent Green Lane, Union High School,  
Residency Road Girls' School,  
Methodist Girls' School and  
Sri Inai Primary School, Penang*

A portrait of Paravathy Kumarasamy, an elderly woman with dark hair, wearing glasses and a purple sari with a floral pattern. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera.

**Dearly missed by:**

**Husband:**  
S. Kumarasamy

**Sons:**  
Dr. Suresh Kumarasamy (Gleneagles, Penang)  
Dr. Devan Kumarasamy (Petronas, KL)  
Dr. Seelan Kumarasamy (San Jose, CA, USA)

**Grandsons:**  
Nikhil and Rohit (Melbourne, Australia)

and a host of family and friends.

*Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday.  
Unseen and unheard always near, so loved, so missed, so very dear.*

Dr. Devan: (mobile) 012-4336000

This morning, by chance, I came across an announcement in the Sunday Star that one Paravathy Kumarasamy had passed away on 9-

5-2016. Below her name there was this insertion: (*Kirkby College, UK. 1952-54*)

After the 2014 Penang Kirkby Reunion, I sent Paravathy a copy of the souvenir magazine that we produced. She was upset that her name did not appear under the master list of the 1952-54 batch of Kirkbyites – the second batch. It was as if she never attended Kirkby College. She asked her name to be included.

I remember writing to Tan Ling Suan pointing out this omission and requested that her name be included.

There are two coincidences. Paravathy passed away on my birthday and she shares the same birthday with Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong (52-53).

She passed away 16 days short of her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

On her birthday last year, I circulated the following message:

“On 24 May 2015, at 17:29, P Ramakrishnan <[rama1938@yahoo.com](mailto:rama1938@yahoo.com)> wrote:

1. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!  
PARAVATHY KUMARASAMY (Kirkby 52-54: Batch 2)  
Date of Birth: 25-5-2015

Paravathy was posted to Kuala Trengganu on her return and served there for three months. Later she was transferred to Penang.

She taught at the Convent Primary Green Lane School and Union Secondary High School.

She was promoted as Deputy Principal and served at the Residency Primary Girls School and later at the Methodist Primary Girls School.

After her retirement she taught at the private school, Sri Inai, for another 18 years! She was very active.

She had attended many Kirkby reunions in the past.

She has kept in touch with Uminathan (Singapore ex-President's wife – Known as Urmila Nanday in Kirkby), Margaret Darinathan (Singapore – Known as Margaret

Xavier in Kirkby), Dorathy Jegatheesan (KL – Known as Dorathy Kanagasabai), Marie Lim, Khoo Yeoh Gan Hong and Tan Beng Theam, all from Penang.

Tomorrow (Monday) is her birthday.

She can be reached through her son, Dr Devan:  
Mobile No: 0124336000

Email: [docdevan@gmail.com](mailto:docdevan@gmail.com)”

Tengku Bainun, then known as Bainun Ali from Penang was also from her batch. When Tenku Bainun declared open a hall in commemoration of Kirkby College at the Tenku Bainun Teachers Training College, Paravathy attended the function.

Dato Sidek Elamdin has also kept in touch with Paravathy. When I contacted him last year regarding Paravathy’s birthday, Dato Sidek recalled many memories of his association with Paravathy’s family.

According to her son, Dr Devan, Uminathan, the former First Lady of Singapore, was Paravathy’s Block Rep.

I recall Paravathy as a slim and tall lady in the 60s during my active days with the NUT Penang Branch.

A friend of mine alerted me of the announcement in the Sunday Star this morning. That’s how I learned of this sad news. This was followed by Satish’s call (53-55) who recalls Paravathy as a very pleasant and charming person. Later, Bala (58-59) called to ask if I had seen the announcement. Finally Raju Suppiah (55-57) called to inform me of the announcement.

Paravathy’s son, Dr Seelan Kumarasamy, was my son’s classmate.

Paravathy retired in 1986 at the age of 55 and continued to teach in a private school for another 18 years until the age of 74.

I haven’t seen her for many years.

It is always very sad when a member of the Kirkby family passes on. But it s something that we have no control over and the inevitable end will come to pass when He decides that it is time to move on to another place in the next life.

You can convey your sympathies through her son, Dr Devan:  
[012-433 6000](tel:012-433 6000); [Email:docdevan@gmail.com](mailto:docdevan@gmail.com)

Yours in sorrow,

RAMA