

**Sadly, another farewell!**

**With very warm regards,**

**RAMA**

**R.I.P. RATNASABAPATHY MUTTAIYA (52-53) 9-8-2017**

This morning Punithavathy (53-55) from Johor Bahru rang me around 10 in the morning to convey the sad news of the passing of Ratnasabapathy (52-53) from the pioneering batch of Kirkbyites.

His demise brings the number of Kirkbyites who passed on since January 2017 to 19. This is the second demise in August and five days after the passing of Mohd Shaari (60-61) on 4-8-2017.

Ratnasabapathy celebrated his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday on 8-2-2017.

This was what I circulated on his birthday; in part it reads:

“He was a very good sportsman – very active in athletics and cricket.

After college, he taught at King Edward VII School, Taiping until 1958.

After that, he followed a degree course in New Zealand.

He was appointed a lecturer at the MTC, Penang where he served from 1963 to 1965.

Following that he was transferred to MTC Johor Bahru and lectured from 1965 until 1966.

He joined the University of Malaya as Assistant Lecturer and served in that position from 1968 to 1970 after which he became a full-fledged Lecturer in 1971 until 1977. In 1977, he was promoted as Associate Professor.

For a fuller account of his impressive career, read about it on page 254 in the book, *Kirkby College – A Heritage* (Revised edition 2015).

He attended the 2012 Biennial Port Dickson Kirkby Reunion for the first time with his wife, Neelambigai (54-56). Even then he was not too well and came in a wheelchair. That was a remarkable display of Kirkby spirit.

Of late, he has been in and out of the hospital and is not doing too well.”

I had tried to keep in touch with him off and on but wasn't able to speak to him at times. He was too weak.

His academic and career achievements were very impressive and he was looked upon with respect.

His wife, Neelanbigai from the fourth batch was a devoted husband. When I met them first in PD in 2012, I noticed how caring she was.

We all come with an expiry date and when our time is up we take our leave. It sounds simple but in reality it is a heart-wrenching experience.

Those of you wishing to convey your condolences may find this information useful:

Wife: Neelambigai

Tel: 03-2284 0468; 012-2889 410

Email: [neelarajah1@gmail.com](mailto:neelarajah1@gmail.com)

Address: 12 Lorong Taman Pantai Tujuh, Bukit Pantai, 59100 Kuala Lumpur.

There is the Obituary in today's Star on page 34.

Funeral rites at their residence at 11 am. The cortege will leave the residence at 1.30 am for cremation at Gui Yuan Crematorium, Kampung Tunku at 12.15 noon.

Yours in sorrow,  
RAMA