

R.I.P. SITI ROHANI ISMAIL 54-56: 23-4-2019

The passing of Siti Rohani came as a shock to many of us. Four days ago, on Saturday 20-4-2019, she was discharged from hospital and returned home to rest. Three days later, on Tuesday 23-4-2019, at 11.50 pm she was gone!

Siti was such a friendly person with a ready smile on her face. As far as I was concerned, at first, she was only a voice to me. I have been speaking to her for about two years without having met her. So she was only a voice – a very friendly voice!

Then in 2016 at the KL Kirkby Reunion we met for the first time. She was looking forward to meeting me and I was so happy to have met her. She was seated together with Ramlah Ahmad her college mate and a good friend who was so devoted to Siti during these few difficult months when Siti was really unwell.

Then we met again for the second time at the 2018 JB Kirkby Reunion. During one of the stops on our way to JB, I had an opportunity to speak to her. I found her to be beautiful and remarked, “In your college days you must have been a ravishing beauty!” She simply smiled.

Since then, within nine months everything changed. Her battle with cancer became common knowledge. In spite of that she was cheerful and positive. Her presence was pervasive in the KAM chat group. She had a good sense of humour.

Siti has been in our thoughts and prayers on a daily basis - and for so long - that it is difficult to accept that she is gone.

And that is why this Native American Poem means so much for us.

“Do not think of me as gone. I am with you still in each new dawn.” – Native American Poem

She will be remembered as someone who fought the good battle with dignity and indomitable spirit.

On 5-4-2019, I messaged Siti while she was in hospital:

“My dear Siti, Your indomitable spirit is an inspiration to many. So happy to see your smiling face. I have been praying twice daily since the last time I learnt of your cancer. All the prayers will definitely amount to something. Keep going my dear friend and sister. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers.”

But then we all come with an expiry date. This is something we cannot escape! It is ordained!!

Siti would have left us in the comforting knowledge that she had our unstinting love and affection and friendship.

Yours in sorrow

RAMA

24-4-2019

With very warm regards,
RAMA