

## R.I.P. THERESA LEOW ARUDSOTHY 59-60: 6-8-2016

This afternoon at 4.15 pm, Sawthiraja (60-61) called me from Canberra to convey the sad news of Theresa Leow's passing. It came as a great shock to me.

Theresa was from my batch. I remember her as a vibrant girl in her blazer with a red neckerchief around her neck, a pony tail and a ready smile.

We used to play table tennis very frequently.

After college, our paths never crossed. At some point in time she moved to Australia with her husband Arudsothy. I understand from Sawthirajah that Arudsothy had heart problem and for some reason he came to Penang to receive treatment and passed away. We were not aware that he passed away in Penang otherwise we would have rallied around Theresa and provided her with support and comfort.

According to Sawthirajah, Theresa had a son and daughter but preferred to stay on her own. Her son in Sydney rang her up 6 August but there was no reply and so he went to Brisbane to investigate and found his mother dead.

Of late, my emails to her kept bouncing back and my attempts to call her went unanswered. In fact, when I was in Perth I rang her at least three times but it appeared that her land line was no longer valid.

Some years ago, I had spoken to her and she came across as a friendly person. She said that she would attend the 2006 Kirkby Reunion in Perak but at the last moment could not make it.

In the past she had posted me some cards with religious inscriptions. Lean Aing (59-60) and Rosalyn (59-60) had also received similar cards. She had also corresponded with me via email. In 2006 she wrote to inform me that she was coming to KL on 1 October from London. Then on her return to Brisbane on 12 October, she wrote to inform me:

“I met 13 Kirkbyites at Hotel Cititel in Mega Mall in KL. on 9th Monday. We had a pleasant buffet lunch that afternoon. Chia Soo Itt and Theresa and Martin Voon organised the buffet.”

She also made a donation to Aliran during this trip.

We had been corresponding from 2005 until 2008. After that there were no more email exchanges.

Many years ago, Rosalyn Chew (59-60) had met her in Brisbane. The long hair that she had was gone and she had changed in appearance. She was much involved with the Toast Masters.

It is a strange coincidence that three Kirkbyites from the last three Kirkby batches had passed on in the first week of August: 2 August Chong Chin Seng (59-59); 6 August Theresa Leow (59-60); 6 August Cheah Phee Eng (60-61).

Unfortunately I do not have any contacts to share with you all and as such we are unable to convey our condolences to her children.

Yours in sorrow,

RAMA  
28-8-2016