

**Kandasamy A/L Sandanam**  
**(Demised – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010)**



Born on 9th March 1945, in Bukit Mertajam to a milk vendor and his housewife, Kandasamy was the eldest of 2 children. At a very young age he had to help his father in his business and at the age of 7 years old, Mr. Kandasamy lost his father. He had to step up and be the man of the house, as being the only son, he would have to fend for his widowed mother and baby sister by being the family sole bread winner.

His uncle, a teacher and father figure, ensured that Mr. Kandasamy completed his primary and secondary education. His uncle had thought him the values of an honest life and the importance of education and ensured that Mr. Kandasamy never gave up his studies, although he had to work to support his family.

Upon completion of his studies, Mr. Kandasamy joined the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) as an air traffic controller. He married Madam Ramathikam Vasantha in 1972.

In 1982, Mr. Kandasamy, who always had the passion for law, enrolled himself with University of London, external Law Degree course. Upon completion of his degree, he enrolled himself for the Certificate in Legal Practice in 1986, offered by University of Malaya, which he passed on his first attempt. Mr. Kandasamy being married with two young children at that time, had to continue working for DCA and eventually became the Assistant Director of Air Transport.

In the 1991, Mr. Kandasamy had opted to retire from his position with DCA to pursue his career in Law. Mr. Kandasamy read in the chamber of Mr. Adnan from Messrs Adnan, Sundra & Low and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar on 21<sup>st</sup> February 1992. He started off practicing law with Messrs Adnan, Sundra & Low and then moved on to three other law firms before starting his own practice under the name and style of Messrs Kandasamy & Associates (which subsequently changed name to Messrs Riswana & Co). During his private practice, Mr. Kandasamy, albeit being busy with civil litigation work for corporate clients, he would never turn any brief away when the same involves an under privileged party, as he always remembered his humble childhood.

Mr. Kandasamy was a principled man and lived an honest life. He loved animals and he would always shelter stray dogs and cats. He treated them, fed them and found them a home whereby he will ensure that the prospective owner will take good care of these pets like a member of the family. Due to his very stringent standards, many would not qualify to be owners and Mr. Kandasamy will take care of these animals himself. His wife somehow always knew that with the stringent standards imposed by her late husband and the love he always possessed for these homeless animals, it would be easier for her to adopt some of

the animals than turning them away simply because Mr. Kandasamy could never agree to an animal be put down.

As a father, he would always advice his children that there are no short cuts and only hard work will pay. To him an important tool in life is education and he made sure that both his children were educated. To him family always came first, no matter how hard work kept him.

Mr. Kandasamy suffered a minor stroke in year 2001, which affected his eyesight. Despite his limited vision and his inability to drive to work, it never stopped him from practicing, simply because of his passion for Law. However in the year 2003, due to another stroke which partially paralysed him, Mr. Kandasamy had to cease his practice. Being determined, he was just not ready to hang his robes just yet. He was determined to work hard on being mobile again.

In 2005, he joined Messrs Sharan Surendren & Associates, whereby he would render legal advice and opinion to various clients.

In October 2010, Mr. Kandasamy suffered another stroke and was admitted to the Klang General Hospital. He passed away peacefully in the morning of 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2010. He leaves behind his wife, Madam Ramathikam Vasantha, son Venkateswara and daughter Kavitha Soraya.

He will always be remembered as being a man who put other people's needs before even thinking of any luxuries for himself. He was a selfless and courageous gentleman. He may have passed on but his wisdom and good values remain alive.

**Venkateswara Kandasamy**