

RUTH PUVANANAYAKIE GASPERSON

mem no. 106/92

1927 - 1998

Puvananayakie was born in Jaffna Town on 16th October 1927. She is the fifth child of six children born to William and Packiam Thambirajah. William Thambirajah was teaching at Parameshwara College and Packiam Thambirajah at a school at Anaipanthi.

Her siblings are: Late A.R.R. Thambirajah, D.J. Thambirajah (UK), Mrs Vanasanayakie Rajapoobalasingham, Kulam Thambirajah (South Africa), Mrs Sakuntala Yogarajah (Sri Lanka).

She was educated at Vembadi Girls School, Jaffna. She suffered from a serious heart condition from her childhood, and was advised by her doctor not to marry. However the ties of love were so strong that she met and married Sugir. Much against medical advice that even having one child would kill her, the young couple went on to have two sons - Jeba and Thayalan.

Mr Gasperson was working in the Police Department (CID) in Sri Lanka, retiring prematurely in 1980. On retirement he worked in the mercantile sector till the family migrated to Australia in April 1987. He continues to work as a volunteer for the Wesley Mission.

We remember Puvana's quiet yet warm friendliness and the occasions when she has contributed by providing her tasty dishes during the time our lady members were in charge of our Fellowship Lunches at the Tamil Seniors' Members' Days. Her husband Sugir Gasperson was the Assistant Treasurer of the Association at that time.

Puvana's charm and kindness earned her many friends while her ready wit and ability to enjoy a joke will always be remembered. The love and respect her friends had for her was demonstrated at the funeral parlour when one of her neighbours most touchingly fell prostrate at the foot of the casket and sobbed her heart out.

Mrs Gasperson was a lady of great faith and piety and a much loved member of the Homebush Uniting Church.

She leaves behind her husband Sugir Gasperson, sons Jeba and Thayalan, and daughter in law Melanie, and grandchildren Rashmee and Shiromee.

God rest the soul of this most loving and lovable lady.