

CHELLAPPAH WINSLOW VETHANAYAGAM

mem no 349/209

1920 - 2002

Chellappah Winslow Vethanayagam was born in Batticaloa on 17th October 1920. He was the eldest of six children born to Murugesapillai Stephen Chellappah and Victoria Arulammah (nee Kanapathipillai) of Karaveddy East (Mr. M S Chellappah was in the Government Clerical Service).

Mr Vethanayagam's five siblings are: a brother Arulnayagam (UK), and four sisters- Geevamalar Mathibalasingham (Canada) , Gnamalar Chelliah (Brunei), Pavamalar Maurice (Canada) and Miss Yogamalar Chellappah (UK).

After his Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary education, he entered the University College, Colombo in 1940 for his London B.Sc., and the University of Ceylon, Colombo, later twice: first for his Dip. Ed. in 1951 and next for his M.A. in 1954. His qualifications thus finally were B.Sc. (London), Dip.Ed. (Ceylon), M.A. (Ceylon).

He constructed and standardised a Non Verbal Intelligence Test for Ceylon children for his M.A. thesis. That test was subsequently bought over by the Ministry of Education, Ceylon, and used by it for its various Standardisation and Selection purposes.

He was an Asst: Teacher in Assisted Schools and a Grade 11 Special Post Teacher in Government Schools in Ceylon for 12 years (1944 - 1956). He was the Secretary and later the Superintendent and Chief Editor for natural Sciences (Tamil) in the Educational Publications Department, Ceylon, for 15 years (1956- 1972).

He then proceeded to Africa and was a Teacher at W.A.M. Collegiate School, Free Town, Sierra Leone, West Africa, for 10 years (1972- 1982)

He returned to Sri Lanka in 1982. He lived in retirement since 1982, teaching in Private Institutions and giving private tuitions in Science and English.

He migrated to Australia in 1996 to be close to his son (his only child) and family who had migrated to Australia (NSW) earlier in 1987.

Now to mention just a couple of his extra mural activities:

- In the Ceylon Association for the Advancement of Science(CAAS), he was Secretary in 1958 and 1959 and President in 1960 of its Social Sciences Section (Section F)
- In Australia he was the Secretary of the Tamil Senior Citizens' Association (OWS), Sydney, in 1998/99.

He leaves behind (besides his brothers and sisters) his wife Pearl Pushparanee (nee Chelliah), whom he married on 12 June 1950, his son Chellappah Jeyapalan, his daughter in law Sulogini (nee Chelliah) and two grandchildren Rajaen and Rajita.