OBITUARY

Dr. R. Jeyaraman, Ph.D. passed away in his wife's lap on Aug 28, 2010 at 4.30pm in Cary, NC, USA. He is survived by his wife and three children.

Born in 1944, Dr. Jeyaraman was well-known across the academic community as a distinguished scientist in the field of Organic Chemistry. With over 200 publications to his credit and numerous citations, including an honorable mention in the 1986 Encyclopedia Britannica Year Book on Science, Dr. Jeyaraman dedicated his life and energy for the development of Science, particularly Chemistry. His excellent teaching skills, guidance and motivation have been the source of inspiration for many scientists today. He was instrumental in creating a research facility at American College, Madurai and Bharathidasan University, Trichy. His work on dimethylidioxirane was listed in the 1986 Encyclopedia Britannica as one of the pioneering discoveries of that year. It opened up several research opportunities for future scientists. His keen interest in Computers motivated him to do his MCA degree when he was 60 and he has contributed several articles to various computer/software magazines. As Head of the Bharathidasan University computer center during the mid-nineties, he led several innovative efforts to streamline and revolutionize many of the current University systems. Later, as Dean of R&D at Bishop Heber College, Trichy, he spearheaded several new research initiatives. Many of his students, now spread throughout the world continue to accomplish scientific achievements, and cherish the value and ethics he taught them. His intelligence, honesty, integrity and hard work earned him laurels throughout the world and motivated his students to aim high. Dr. Jeyaraman’s work and contribution to the academic community will forever remain in the corridors of Science.

In 2000, Dr. Jeyaraman’s pancreatic cancer was misdiagnosed and was accurately identified only in 2007. Motivated by his never-give-up attitude, love and affection showered on him by his family, he put up a strong fight and underwent the complex Whipple surgery to remove his tumor and took several chemotherapy and radiation sessions. For two years, he remained alive after having won the fight against the tumor, albeit briefly. In early 2010, the cancer came back aggressively, this time having metastasized to multiple organs. True to Dr. Jeyaraman’s nature, he fought long and hard against a disease that has only a 5% survival rate after 5 years. He said to his doctors, “If the cancer needs to kill me, it needs to fight harder”. In spite of not being able to eat or drink the last month, Dr. Jeyaraman’s courageous fight against his deadly cancer continued with more treatments that he willingly took. In August, 2010, the cancer had begun to overcome his will. On Aug 28, 2010, amidst the presence of his immediate family members, with his head on his wife’s lap and hands around his children, Dr. Jeyaraman breathed his last. Our beloved Dad will forever remain in our hearts and is a true HERO!!

Funeral services were held on the 29th of August 2010 and he was cremated on Aug 31st, 2010 in Cary, NC. His ashes will be immersed in water bodies in US and India as per Hindu traditions. Condolences for the family may be emailed to ramjey@gmail.com

Surviving family:
Mrs. Hemavathy Jeyaraman
Ramkumar Jeyaraman, Anita Ramkumar, Sasna
Ravikumar Jeyaraman, Veena Ravikumar, Amoha
Dr. Ramesh Rathinakumar, Ph.D., Latha Ramesh, Iniya