



George Philip Ollapally

March 9, 1929 - January 7, 2016

George Philip Ollapally passed away peacefully on the morning of January 7th, 2016 surrounded by his family.

George was born on March 9, 1929 in Peroor, Kerala, India. He was the 5th child from a family of eight, with six brothers and two sisters. As a young boy, he was athletically and academically gifted, and yet maintained a healthy sense of fun (and mischief). He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from CMS College in Kerala, India. He also received a Bachelor of Commerce from St. Joseph's College in Tiruchirappalli, Kerala, India. In 1961, after a brief teaching stint at Sacred Heart High School, he decided to explore a new opportunity in leather technology in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Sponsored by a local family, he spent the next eight years mastering both the language and the technology, while developing relationships that lasted a lifetime.

In 1969, he took his next step to the United States, to pursue his Masters in Business Administration at George Washington University. Soon after, he accepted a position as an accountant for the Pan American World Health Organization, where he stayed until his retirement. George was handsome and with his dashing good looks and his signature salt and pepper hair, many people compared him to Omar Sharif and even called him, "The Indian Michael Douglas." It wasn't a surprise that he captured the heart of the love of

his life. George married his beautiful bride Pennamma (Penny) in 1972, and they have lived in the Washington DC area ever since.

Retirement didn't seem to slow George down. A true renaissance man, he never remained idle and fed his unending thirst for knowledge, mastering crafts along the way. To some people, he was George the winemaker, growing grapes in his backyard. To others he was a woodworker who built much of the furniture in the house. If you were lucky, you still may be wearing one of his custom leather belts. While sitting on the deck that he built, you could often see George and his bucket hat, tending to his beloved garden.

But above all this, George's true passion was his love of music. He would spend countless hours in his sun drenched music room, listening to his eclectic collection of artists, switching from Beethoven to Bruce Springsteen, from Glen Campbell to Miles Davis. Often times, George would speak to you only in tune, responding to questions with lyrics and embarrassing his children in front of their friends for many years. He was truly a man who was comfortable in his own skin.

A devoted husband, uncle, dad and grandfather, George's love for his family was immeasurable, especially for Penny, his wife of 44 years.

To his family, he had many names: "George Appapan", "Appacha", "Chettan" and "George Uncle". He was "Georgekutty" to his sister Annamma and brother Philip. He was "Daddy" to his son Geophy, his daughter Priya and his son in law Dave. But his proudest name was that of "Opa", german for grandfather. He meant everything to his grandson Neven and his granddaughter Eva and as many of you know, the feeling was mutual.

Auf Wiedersehen George, we will always love you.

In lieu of flowers, donations in the memory of George Ollapally can be made to St. Jude's Hospital, one of the family's favorite charities.

Visitation will be held on January 15th from 4-8pm at Jefferson Chapel Memorial, 5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA. Special prayer service will begin at 6:30pm.

A celebration of life service will be held on January 16th at 10:30am at St. Louis Catholic Church, 2907 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, VA.

Tribute Wall



“ *George Philip Ollapally*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Jefferson Funeral Chapel - January 28, 2019 at 09:19 AM



“ *Dearest Phillip and family, Please know that our deepest sympathies and condolences are with you all. I know it isn't easy, but I just wish you didn't have to say goodbye.*

*With our love and prayers,
Natalie and Demetrius Gravette
Alexandria, VA*

January 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *In the few days I spent with you and your amazing family, I understand how blessed you were, Mr. George. You'll be missed. I'll always remember your lovely smile. Mr. George, I'm sure you're with Jesus. I pray for the family to get strength at this difficult time*

January 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ WORDS CANT DESCRIBE HOW BAD I MISSED AN AMAZING MAN. WORK WORK WORK I SAY AND NOW YOU ARE GONE UNCLE. I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU... THANKS UNCLE FOR ALL THE GREAT MEMORIES, YOUR LAUGHTER, YOUR JOKES, YOUR ANGER, AND YOUR LOVE... THE INFREQUENT CONVERSATIONS... OH HOW I WISH I COULD GO BACK TO TIME. NOW THAT YOU ARE GONE FOREVER I MISS YOU. I JUST WISH I HAD THAT ONE MORE CONVERSATION WITH YOU. BUT THATS LIFE AND I HOPE THIS LESSON YOU TAUGHT ME WILL STAY WITH ME SO I CAN ALWAYS THINK OF MY LOVED ONES. REST IN PEACE UNCLE AND I KNOW FOR SURE YOU MADE HEAVEN A LITTLE MORE CHEERFUL...

January 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM