



Karappurath Vasudevan

February 12, 1938 - September 6, 2024

With great sadness, and a profound sense of loss, we wish to announce the passing of our father, father-in-law, great uncle, grandfather, and great grandfather Karappurath (K.) Vasudevan, (Vasu) on September 6, 2024, following a prolonged illness.

He is preceded by his wife Lalitha, and leaves behind his two children, Gopikrishnan Vasudevan and Sujatha Krishnan with their spouses Mini Vasudevan and Kumar Krishnan; grand-nephew Gopal Chandrashekar and spouse Remya; and grandchildren Janaki Cash, Shiva Vasudevan, Sreeram Krishnan, Vishnu Vasudevan, Ambika Krishnan, Priyanka Krishnan; and great granddaughter Roma Meera Cash.

It is with love and respect, that we acknowledge how indebted we are as a family to his vision, insight, hard work, perseverance and wisdom in the manner he has led by example.

Vasu began his journey as an American immigrant landing at JFK airport in July of 1970, with a wife, a 10 yr. old son and a 20 month old daughter. He arrived not having any guarantee of a job and with only 2 suitcases containing all of the family possessions. Like many legal immigrants before him, arriving in the U.S.A was a major calculated gamble.

He was determined to succeed and to be worthy of being an American. There was no naivety in his adoration and admiration for the promises and hope this country offered. Rather, it was a stubborn desire to conspicuously promote and praise the positive, while quietly trying to repair and resolve the negative. An example of this is the BLESS Fund.

The Bartlesville Lincoln Elementary School Scholarship, (BLESS Fund), provided scholarships to students pursuing higher education beyond high school. Since 1994, BLESS has helped 105 students achieve their dreams with awards exceeding \$400,000 towards their education.

He was the most organized and hard working person anyone in our family has ever met. Vasu staunchly believed in the traditional old fashioned American work ethic and innovative “can do” spirit. It was always a dream for him to be at the forefront of a business that contributed to the common societal good, and treated its employees as an extended family.

That dream came true in 1986, when he established Service and Technology Corporation (STC), a consulting engineering firm. In 1992, he founded Service and Manufacturing Corporation (SMC), a custom manufacturing firm, and in 2021, he created USAco, with a focus on manufacturing “Made in the U.S.A” consumer products.

We know Vasu was well respected by the community for his competence, and was entrusted with many local projects such as the restoration of the Nellie Johnstone; the Sooner Park Play Tower; relocation of the Locomotive 940; the A4 Skyhawk display at the Washington Park Mall, to name a few.

He collaborated with the Sutton Avian Research Center and invented a portable backpack incubator for their rehabilitation project which reintroduced Bald Eagles into the lower 48 states. He served two terms as a Director of the

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City – Oklahoma City Branch.

Vasu was always deeply grateful to the United States of America, and the Bartlesville community, for accepting and embracing him. He, in return, continuously strove to earn the privilege of that trust. He was good and true to his family, to his friends and business associates, to his employees, to his community and to his country.

Our family will cherish all the guidance and wonderful moments we had with him. He will be deeply missed. With love, heartfelt gratitude and fond remembrances, we wish him moksha (eternal blissful liberation and loving union with divinity).

If you wish to honor Vasu, in lieu of flowers, please send any contributions to: BLESS Fund, Inc., 105 South Penn, Bartlesville, OK 74003.

Tribute Wall

MK

“ I have rarely encountered a remarkable man like him. I considered him a mentor and a friend. He represented much of what we, as humans, should strive for. While our paths didn't cross for long, he certainly left a long impression on me.

Matthew Kendall - September 22, 2024 at 09:26 PM

VB

“ We're sorry for this loss. Vasu was a special person. I enjoyed my time of working with and for several years ago. Prayers for the family.

Vickie Bradley - September 15, 2024 at 11:13 AM

KS

“ It is our great fortune to have known Vasudevan and The Vasudevans since 1985. We instantly connected and cherished friends for life. Vasu is an awesome individual full of ideas, values, industry and accomplishments which one cannot hope to achieve in many lives. We developed a deep bond and glad we were able to enjoy his hospitality two years ago in his cherished Kerala Home in the Osage County at the outskirts of Bartlesville. Even in his ripe age, his enthusiasm of “Do it anyway” was bubbling. He represented best of both (his native and adopted) Cultures and Heritages. Pray for merging of his Soul to be united with the Supreme Soul he earnestly was indebted to.

Koti Sreekrishna - September 10, 2024 at 05:30 PM

BH

Wholly agree with your views on Vasu. I have known and admired him since 1965.

Bhaskar - September 10, 2024 at 10:43 PM

K.

Excellent Obituary. Vasuetan was the healthiest, wealthiest and most accomplished leader in our family. May he attain "Moksha" and be relieved from cycle of rebirths!!!

K.Ramachandran

K.Ramachandran - September 11, 2024 at 10:02 AM

CE

So sorry for your loss

Charles eden - September 11, 2024 at 05:04 PM



“ Upon his family’s induction into the Bartlesville Community Foundation’s 2014 Legacy Hall of Fame, here are some excerpted quotes “Vasu” made at that year’s banquet as published in the May 19, 2014, Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise:

“There was a period when we didn’t know where we were going ... but suddenly the fog lifted and we were where we wished to be — Bartlesville, Oklahoma,” said Vasudevan. “It was the best thing that could have happened to me.”

“Today is a day that not only me, but all of my family will remember forever. ... Even now, it is hard for me to believe that this is for real.”

“It’s impossible for me to comprehend that we are becoming a part of a group of such distinguished families who have been here for generations and have done so much for this wonderful community.”

Chris Rush - September 10, 2024 at 04:48 PM

KS

Vasu or rather Vasuetan as we call him with respect was the most successful and most achieved member in our "KARAPURATH " family. Having known him for more than seventy years, it is extremely difficult to see anyone with the vision, will, drive, tenacity and hard work that he exhibited throughout his life. He believed in making everything better for everyone. I feel very blessed to know him and part of his large "KARAPURATH" family. I wish his soul permanent peace and bliss.

Karapurath Sudhakaran - September 10, 2024 at 08:21 PM

DD

I had the honor of knowing and working with Vasu for the past 20 years through various community and Rotary Club projects. Through these, I became well familiar with his intelligence, drive and boundless energy. He was truly a man of action equipped with all the capabilities to get things done. But looking back over our friendship, I will treasure most our many conversations about his adopted country – the U.S.A. – the nation he loved so much and the future of which he cared about so deeply. He cherished and championed the freedoms and opportunities that so many of us take for granted. He was a builder and a leader, yes. But first and foremost, he was a true patriot.

Dan Droege - September 11, 2024 at 10:39 AM

MF

My sincerest condolences and prayers for peace and comfort during this time of loss.

MaryBeth Friis - September 11, 2024 at 01:00 PM