



## Avi Ogale

March 9, 1935 - September 2, 2020

On Wednesday, September 2, 2020, Avi Ogale, loving husband, son, brother, and father of two sons, passed away at the age of 85. He was preceded in death by his father, Vyankatesh, his mother, Vimala, his brothers, Ravindra and Shashikant, and his son, Abhijit (Abhi); he is survived by his ex-wife, Sudha (Geeta), and his son, Abhimanyu (Manyu).

Avi was born on March 9, 1935, to Vyankatesh and Vimala Ogale at Ogalewadi, Maharashtra, India. He received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Poona. He married Sudha Bhagwat of Bombay in 1960. In 1961, he and his young family (Sudha and newborn son, Abhi) moved to The Hague, Netherlands, as he pursued his post-graduate education in hydraulic engineering at the Delft Institute of Technology. In 1964, he and his family (now including Manyu) emigrated from Holland to Toronto, Canada, representing one of the early trailblazers of Indian immigration to Canada. In 1980, the family moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he resided for almost a quarter-century, until his final move to Florida in 2005. Till the day of his passing, while still having a soft spot for Canada, Avi was a proud American, interested in the country's history and politics, always grateful for the opportunity to have immigrated there in mid-life.

It is the story of immigration in which Avi's legacy, beyond his immediate family, is unique. As the first of his extended family to settle in Canada, through his efforts in terms of legal sponsorship, administrative paperwork, financial assistance, providing his home as temporary residence, and helping in all manner of ways to facilitate settlement of family members subsequently arriving, from his brother and sister-in-law and their three children to his wife's siblings, Avi directly changed the lives of many people in his generation, not to mention the indirect ripples to multiple generations which have followed.

Avi worked as a consulting civil engineer throughout his career and was involved in many notable projects such as the Brussels-Paris Expressway, the Spadina Viaduct and the Four Seasons Sheraton Hotel in Toronto, and the expansion of the international terminal at Hartfield-Jackson Airport in Atlanta.

Apart from his scholastic interests, Avi was an avid sportsman and played multiple sports exceptionally well including cricket, tennis, table tennis, and, later in life, golf. He was the captain of his cricket team in inter-collegiate tournaments, admired for his calligraphic penmanship, an avid bridge player, and a great admirer of Indian classical music. In fact, he taught himself to play classical Indian violin, and was always on hand to perform at amateur music gatherings. In his later life, he enjoyed traveling, especially cruising.

He will be profoundly missed, but comfort is taken in that he is now together with his first beloved son, Abhi. A pooja will be performed at the Hindu Temple in Castlebury, Florida next week to say our final good bye to Avi and place him in the hands of God. May God bless his soul and may he rest in peace.

# Comments

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“ Dear Sudha and Manyu

I had the privilege of knowing your family since 1964. We were a handful Marathi speaking families in Toronto around that time and yours was a very welcome addition.

You moved away to USA in 1980, but our friendship continued to this date. Avi was a gentle and very caring person.

May you find peace and comfort in the cherished memories of Avi.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY,

Durga Pachapurkar

September 15.2020

Toronto,ON

Durga Pachapurkar - September 15 at 04:46 PM

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“ It is with utter sadness that I write these words about Avi. Although his health was failing, his passing came so suddenly, so sadly. It pains me to imagine that no one could visit him in the nursing home these past many months due to COVID, but I also take comfort that Sudha and Manyu could be with him for his last 72 hours. I have known him for over 61 years, and the memories are too numerous to even begin to describe. I first met him when I was in Grade 9, and he used to help me with my school geometry problems. I recall how later when I was older his friends, Damle and Thakurdesai, would visit, and we would all play rummy, the loser required to pay the restaurant bill. I remember seeing a drama, "Swayyamvar," with him at The King George School Theatre in which Bal Gandharva's wife was the heroine. I lived with Avi and Sudha (and Abhi and Manyu) when I came to Canada in 1969, and I have the deepest and fondest memories of our family life in Bramalea. It's hard to imagine that that was over 50 years ago. Avi has a long list of achievements that will long be remembered. I so wish I could be in Orlando with Sudha and Manyu, but my thoughts are never far from them. I will miss Avi dearly, but he is with Abhi now.

May God bless his soul and may his soul rest in peace.

Sunanda Kandalgaonkar

Sunanda Kandalgaonkar - September 12 at 05:44 PM

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“ Dearest Geeta and Manyu,  
Sending you all the love I have and keeping you so close to my heart.  
Jennifer



Jennifer Jones - September 12 at 06:02 AM

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“ Dear Geeta! What you have written in this obituary reflects your true compassion and very-special writing talent and is beautifully expressed. May Avi now rest in everlasting peace, love, and harmony, as we are sure he so deserves. And, may you and Manju find some comfort in knowing that Avi is now in God's hands.

Dan & Sadhana

Daniel Pemble - September 11 at 11:53 AM

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“ Dear Sudha,  
I'm writing this to send my heartfelt condolences to you, on hearing of the sad passing away of dear Avi. May his soul Rest In Peace!  
Even though we never really had the chance to get to know each other, as Nanda's sister, I have "known" you for many years.  
After hearing about Abhi, I wanted to write to you but somehow never got around to it, but please know that you were in my thoughts even at that time.  
In life, we only have so much control of what's handed to us, but what we make of it is important. To that end, we make decisions with the best intentions and you must find comfort in that. You have always put your best foot forward!  
Take care and stay safe!

Love,  
Pratibha Deshmukh (nee Tilak)

Pratibha Deshmukh ( Tilak) - September 11 at 11:35 AM

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“ I don't have any words to express my grief. He was very simple and honest person. He was instrumental in bringing our family to Canada. We will miss him very much.

## Mini Kulkarni



**Meena Kulkarni** - September 10 at 07:30 PM



“ Nicely written obituary. I remember Avi Kaka very clearly and how much he liked the violin. He always treated our family well and will be missed.

**Monica** - September 11 at 08:31 AM



“ Avi Kaka was my father's youngest brother and choose to venture away from the family business in Ogalewadi and go first to Europe and then to Canada in the early 1960's.

It is because of his and Sudha Kakus encouragement that our family came to Canada.

Although on the surface he did not always show his emotions deep down he truly cared for his family whom he affectionately referred to as “ nath lok” in Marathi

He was passionate about his interests and strived to be good at what he liked whether it was playing golf, tennis , bridge or for that matter solving a soduko puzzle. It is because of him that I learned to play bridge and become better at it.

Although we could not communicate with each other during our last two visits the slight gleam In his eyes and awkward smile were an indication that he knew I was there. He would call me Dhanya in moments of love and frustration and I will miss that.

Rest In Peace Avi Kaka

Dhananjay Ogale

**Dhananjay Ogale** - September 11 at 08:22 PM



“ Avi Kaka was my uncle. He was my father's younger brother and chose not to enter the family business in Ogalewadi, India; he forged a different path that led him first to Europe and then to Canada in 1964.

It is because of his encouragement and Sudha Kaku that my family moved to Canada.

Avi Kaka often came across as stern and perhaps not as emotional as others in the family but deep down he loved his family and fondly referred to them as “ nath lok” in Marathi which means kin folk.

Avi Kaka believed strongly that you should be the best at anything you do and strive always to learn. He was an avid golfer, tennis player and lover of Indian Classical music and always was striving to improve his game or expand his knowledge. It is because of him that

I learned to play bridge.

Sadly during our last two visits we could not communicate but when he saw me there was a spark in his eyes and a faint smile so I knew he remembered me. Rest In Peace Avi Kaka

Dhanu Ogale

**dan ogale** - September 12 at 09:45 AM



“ MY condolances to Sudha AND Manyu.

Avi came in my life,as my youngest brother- in- law..As his older brothers wife,he used to call meVahini with affection,now on i will miss that endearing term.

He wa avid and gifted sportsman,he was serious Bridge player.

Connoisseur of Indian classical music,he used to play violin as a hobby.

Avi and Sudha encouraged my husband to move to canada,and after our arrival they both helped us to settle in this new country,I am always grateful for that.

Happy memories of Avi(Avikaka)will always stay with me and my family.

May his soul rest in iternal peace.

Jyosnavahini

**jyosna ogale** - September 12 at 03:28 PM



“ Dear Sudha and Manyu

I had the privilege of knowing your family from 1964. We were only handful Of Marathi speaking families in Toronto in mid sixties and your addition was a delight! Sudha, you moved away about 40 years back but the friendship continued to this day.

Avi was a gentle and warm person. He will be missed.

May you find peace and comfort in the cherished memories of Avi.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Durga Pachapurkar

September 15, 2020

**Durga Pachapurkar** - September 15 at 04:34 PM

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“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



**Fisk Funeral Home & Crematory** - September 09 at 11:33 AM