

## Tribute to Lal Alwis my friend

My friend Lal who faced the interview with me to be recruited to the Department of Broadcasting in early 60s. We shared before the interview some technology aspects as I had good exposure of radio technology; Other officers who were with us M.P. Gunawardena and Arunannanda samy.

Lal was a Royalist and kept his mark in the society is a proud byproduct of Royal and continued his service in the Radio Ceylon as a prestigious officer. He enjoyed a scholarship to West Germany and brightened his technical exposure. He was humble friend with a very open mind in helping others.

In the late 60s a personal car was a very scarce commodity. His Volkswagen beetle car was a goodwill promoter among his friends. If there was a wedding in a family of a friend if requested he will certainly obliged by giving his vehicle at least one day.

He, R.A.P.G and my self did some engineering studies together. In studying for IEE part 1 exam and shared many hours in R.A.R.Gunathilaka place in Kottawa.

As an engineer in the SLBC his contribution to the progress of the institution was unmatched

I could remember his calmly wife was the shining light behind him. They were bestowed with two sons. His brother was an irrigation engineer was also in and out with Lal's friends from SLBC. We had many evenings with high spirits at his residence.

At times the spirits so high he was driving his car against traffic, he was a bold person. One day on his way from Ekala at the Kalaniya Bridge Roundabout he was going round and round in the roundabout. Then a police officer stopped and asked him what are you doing? He has said, "I am checking my car".

He was always non serious man took life in a very easy way.

I reproduced these stories to highlight a friendship he started with us in our youth. We were sharing many life's achievements.

He had a high degree of intuition and after retirement he was much inclined to Dhamma and continued to be a practicing Buddhist by all standards to my conviction.

He passed away at an early age but accomplished his responsibilities towards friends, society and the family to the best of his ability

May he be a friend of ours next birth too

KN Gunawardena.