

கூற்றாயினவாறு விலக்ககலீர்

கொடுமைபல செய்தன நானறியேன்

ஏற்றாய் அடிக்கே இரவும் பகலும்

பிரியாது வணங்குவன் எப்பொழுதும்

தோற்றாதென் வயிற்றின் அகம்படியே

குடரோடு துடக்கி முடக்கியிட

ஆற்றேன் அடியேன் அதிகைக்கெடில

வீரட்டானத் துறைஅம்மானே

- திருநாவுக்கரசர்

தொல்லை இரும்பிறவிச் சூழும் தளைநீக்கி அல்லல்

அறுத்து ஆனந்த் மாக்கியதே - எல்லை மருவா

நெறியளிக்கும் வாதவூர் எங்கோன்

திருவாசகம் என்னுந் தேன்

-மாணிக்கவாசகர்

பித்தா பிறை சூடி பெருமானே அருளாளா

எத்தான் மறவாதே நினைக்கின்றேன் மனத்துன்னை

வைத்தாய் பெண்ணைத் தென்பால் வெண்ணெய் நல்லூரருட்டுறையுள் அத்தா

வுனக் காளாயினி அல்லேன் எனலாமே

பொன்னார் மேனியனே புலித்தோலை அரைக்கசைத்து

மின்னார் செஞ்சடைமேல் மிளீர்கொன்றை அணிந்தவனே

மன்னே மாமணியே மழபாடியுள் மாணிக்கமே

அன்னே யுன்னையல்லால் இனியாரை நினைக்கேனே

- சுந்தரர்

Tributes to our Amma

Amma, I am truly grateful for everything you did for us - I know I get my strength, kindness and compassion from you. During difficult times with Appa you were always strong and yet so compassionate and you always made sure your children stayed close to you and made sure we felt safe and secure.

When I was a young girl, I remember really wanting roller skates - you knew this and you saved up for weeks to buy them. This was a theme that continued through my life and you would encourage Ravi Shanker to buy me gifts, even at university he would buy me wonderful presents - a tradition that still carries on to this day.

Every week you would walk 2-3 miles carrying heavy shopping bags and you would still insist on buying us small treats even though money was so tight. You were always selfless and prepared to suffer in order to ensure your children had everything they needed.

Being the only daughter and the youngest child, you encouraged my brothers to protect and look after me which made me feel special, secure and happy growing up. Although you went through so many difficult times you stayed strong to ensure your children were loved and kept safe. You taught us the value of education and you gave us the encouragement, freedom and support to succeed in our lives.

Following my wedding and then Karina's birth, you lived with me and my family for 23 years. You were happy and content, and you loved seeing our 3 children grow up.

Amma you will always be cherished in my heart. You were always there for me and showed me so much love and kindness. You were selfless and strong through so many difficult times in order to give your children the best possible start in life.

I'm so grateful to have a wonderful mother like you! Love you always.

Your loving daughter Dharshi xxx



Tributes to our Amma

Amma, your pillar of strength in moulding us to where we are now is the legacy you leave behind. In life, you rose to the challenges with strength, love, and determination; all values I admire.

Your memory is a treasure, the many meals, dinners, and parties you cooked and hosted. I still remember the mouthwatering seeni sambal and snacks you prepared for all the holidays.

You are loved and missed daily by all of us. Now your journey has moved onto another path. Rest in Peace, Amma.

Ravishanker & Geetha

My dearest Amma,

Thank you for being a beacon of love, strength, and compassion. Your unwavering love, support and boundless kindness touched the hearts of all your children, family and friends.

From working many jobs to making sacrifices in your own life, your dedication knew no bounds. You inspired us to persevere, to never give up on our dreams, and to always strive to succeed, no matter the obstacles we faced.

We remember the sacrifices you made to ensure that we had access to good education, and in the face of adversity, you remained steadfast in your belief that your children deserved every opportunity to succeed.

Thank you Amma, for your unwavering love and shere determination which is truly remarkable and perhaps your greatest gift was your ability to find joy in the simplest of things. Your legacy lives on in your children and grandchildren. Rest in peace, dear Amma. We all love you so much, and you will be deeply missed, but never forgotten.

*With love from your devoted son,
Jaya*



Tributes to our Amma

Amma was unassuming and totally dutiful to her family- her strength resonated throughout our lives. Let us celebrate her legacy, which she demonstrated with love, resilience, and unwavering commitment:

Dutiful Matriarch: Though the youngest among her siblings, Amma wielded much influence. She stood steadfastly by our father's side, influencing and encouraging him to further his studies. His journey led him to the UK with an academic scholarship and practiced as a qualified draftsman. Her unwavering support and encouragement shaped our family's destiny.

A Single Mother's Courage: Tragedy struck when our father passed away prematurely in the late 1970s, Amma sadly became a single mum, facing life's challenges and met them all head-on unwaveringly. In fulfilling her duty and determination in every step, she held the reins of single parenthood firmly without fault. Her gentle love and guidance fuelled our education to advance ourselves. I can honestly say now as an adult and a father her unwavering sacrifices paved the way for our life's successes.

Open-Minded & Warm: Amma's heart was always full of warmth and acceptance. Her mind was very open which transcended most boundaries. An example of this is evident even to matters of religious faiths, where she would often welcome Jehovah's Witnesses into her home without any hesitation because matters about God and Dutiful Love is what she loved.

Genuine Soul: She was genuine, caring, and ever-present. Her gentle demeanour touched everyone fortunate enough to know her through her loving smile. People gravitated towards her, drawn by the quiet strength that emanated from her soul. Her welcoming warmth smile is something often commented by others.

Loving Grandmother: Amma's eyes would light up whenever there was a family gathering involving her grandchildren. But Amma was more than just a doting grandmother; she was a guiding force for them. Her gentle yet firm voice echoed often, "Study well, study hard." Amma's legacy, beyond love and care, embodies the power of encouragement—an unwavering beacon for their future lives' successes.

The Cycle of Life: As we bid farewell to Amma, we recognize life's cyclical nature. Most of her older siblings have embarked on their final souls' journey. Now, we witness Amma's passing. So let us not mourn but celebrate her dutiful life, her generosity, her love, and her legacy.

Amma, your love remains etched in our hearts. May your spirit soar, guided by the winds of eternity. Om Namah Shivaya! Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti!

Jeeva

A Tribute to my Sister Rani

What is the secret of your Exemplary Life SISTER RANI?

Yes, all of us brothers and sisters, except for Acka Puvanam, were born in British Malaya. But then we managed to leave Malaya before the Japanese occupation. You were a cute little girl of 3, traveling with your family on a ship to Sri Lanka (Ceylon then) in 1941.

Your childhood upbringing at Mathagal was interesting. The privations of World War II did not hurt much in our early life. Pandatharippu Girls School shaped your education up to GCE "O" Level. The bullock cart was the mode of transport. You took it in its stride, like Acka Puvanam did earlier.

In early 1960s' Brother Kanesh got you married to Skandan. But soon the period became hell for the Ceylon Tamils in the hands of Sinhalese extremists in that country. Early seventies, all of you managed to land in England. Intelligent and hardworking, all your children excelled in studies in this new country, new environment.

Your husband Skandamoorthy's early departure to the Kingdom of God was tragic. Yet you rose to the occasion and situation. Single-handedly, you led the family to better performance in education and career success. More so, they are all success stories as individuals and as families of their own in this 2020s era of AI.

Your life story is exemplary. From where did you draw the courage and tenacity of purpose as a single mother? Could it be because of the strict and yet loving upbringing of God-fearing parents? Could it be the tough life of farmers in Mathagal which we were exposed to? Perhaps it is the result of the sum total of our genetic make-up and the willingness to struggle, come what may!

Sister Rani, may you Rest in Peace in the Kingdom of God. The kind of sacrificial life you lead in Sri Lanka and England tell a story of inspiration to all, the present and future generations.

Yours Faithfully, S Sivakolunthu (Rasa Anna)

Tributes to our grandmother



The tree of life, forevermore

In a forest of memories, there stands many,
The wilding roots of any.
Its branches reach high, a testament to grace,
In her shade, generations find comfort to embrace.

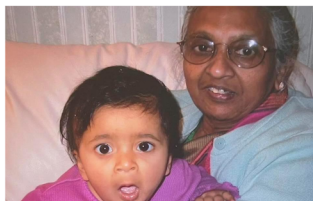
Appamma stands sturdy and wise,
With bark weathered by time, her spirit flies.
Through seasons of joy and storms that may rage,
She stands firm, unyielding in every age.

In the forest's embrace, a robin takes flight,
Her song, a lullaby, in the fading light.
Amidst the rustling leaves, a bond is spun,
In this woodland realm, her tale's begun.

In the gentle rustle of autumn's whispering breeze,
Your memory lingers, like leaves among trees.
Each leaf, a story, a moment shared in time,
A tapestry of love, forever intertwined.

Appamma stands tall,
Her strength and wisdom to be found above all.
With roots that anchor, rain that pours,
You're the tree of life, forevermore.

Shriya Ravishanker



Tributes to our grandmother

Appamma was a remarkable woman whose presence brought much joy to our lives. I fondly recall the summer days when Appama would watch me play badminton in the garden against Dad and would always cheer me on. Those treasured memories will always be remembered with fondness.

Praveena

Dear Appamma, You will live on in my heart forever. I always will treasure the happy memories I had with you, and I will always miss you. Goodbye and rest in peace.

Thara and Milo

Ammama was an extraordinary lady. Mum and her siblings are some of the greatest role models in my life, and I've always found it extraordinary that she was able to raise them alone in such horrible circumstances. I will always be grateful to ammama for showing us how to be selfless, loving and compassionate.

Jay

Mum has always told me how important it was to ammama to provide her children with everything they ever wanted in life. How ammama raised her children is truly reflected in mum- who will do anything for me, Karina and Jay. Ammama was such a strong person, who was continuously determined and persistent- even in her old age as she had the strength to carry on even after multiple strokes.

Kiran

Appamma loved it when I played music for her- whenever she would come to our house I would play her a song on the piano. She would smile and liked to move her head to the beat of the song everytime I played it.

Ryan

Appamma, thank you for always being there for me and always looking out and encouraging me. You were always a guiding soul for my studies and made sure I always studied hard. You will always be in my thoughts and I will treasure you in my heart.

Aleesha

Tributes to our grandmother

Dear Appamma, we treasure countless memories of you, memories that we will cherish forever.

One particularly loving memory stands out: our visit to see you last year. You always spoke passionately about being at Mathagal beach as a child, reminiscing about your fondest memories there. Inspired by your nostalgia, I wanted to paint a vivid portrayal of the waves crashing against the shore at Mathagal beach, brightened by the sunset in the background. Presenting you with the artwork, as I explained its significance was a memory I will adore forever. We hung it on your wall so every time you woke up, you would see the painting and smile, hopefully sparking some precious memories.

Our time together was always special. Whether engaged in a spirited game of chess or immersed in the world of Tamil films playing in the background, those moments will forever be filled with joy and laughter. We will always be thankful for your unwavering support, your boundless patience and your unconditional love. I vividly remember how you would always listen to my singing and piano playing with contentment. Knowing that you not only took pleasure in my music, but also the passion and effort I put in, fills me with immense joy.

I have heard many stories about when daddy was younger, about all the sacrifices you made during the adversity you experienced. Your resilience and perseverance have been an inspiration to me, encouraging me to be just as strong and determined as you are.

Thank you for all the love and affection you have showered upon us, and all the time and patience you have devoted towards us. We will forever be thankful and will always treasure the moments that we were fortunate to spend with you. We will always remember you.

We love you so much Appamma,
Lots of love, Maya & Rishi



Tributes to our grandmother

Ammama and I always had a special bond. For as long as I can remember she has always been there, having lived with us from the moment I was born until I was 22 she was there for every significant moment of my life from my first steps to my first job. From when I was a baby she showed me so much love and affection- reading me stories, watching Disney films with me, and cooking me some of my favourite foods.

Ammama was a simple woman, who didn't need much in life to make her happy. One of her favourite pastimes was to sit in our conservatory, looking at the blue sky as the birds chirped and the clouds passed by. She used to sit there telling me stories about her childhood in Sri-Lanka and her young adult life after she moved to the UK with her four children. I remember thinking it was incredible how she managed to bring up her young children whilst navigating life in a new country with a new language, different weather, and a completely new way of life- having very little support for such a long time. Her life story is truly a testament to her strength and character as a person and I've always thought that her story would really make an incredible book. Maybe one day I'll decide to write one to honour her.

I know one of the most important things to amamma was my happiness, asking me if I was happy every time she saw me. I'm so glad that over the past few years she got to know my future husband Sam- and especially happy that she grew so fond of him in such a short space of time, often asking to see Sam before asking about me. I'm so sad she won't be there for our wedding, but I truly appreciate all of the milestones in my life she was able to be there for.

Ammamma, I'll miss you so much- trying to keep this short is so difficult, because I could go on for hours. But I hope you know I'm happy, and I hope you're now happy too.

Love Karina, Your Rasathi



Tributes to our auntie

Rani Maami was a wonderful woman who brought joy to everyone's life. She remembered us fondly, and even during the short time my daughter spent together with her, they shared a lot of laughter and Yash always recalls that time very affectionately. We will miss her very much.

Raveendra Kumar, Vijaya, Sharveen, and Yash

Dear Aunty Rani, you may no longer be with us but the affection I have for you will remain. During my childhood, I remember receiving letters and presents occasionally from you in the UK. I looked forward to these and cherished them. The love for your children and your resolute nature despite setbacks, went a long way in ensuring the success of your family. I respect and salute you for your dedication and tenacity as a mother.

Nesan

When we moved to London, Rani Paatti and her family welcomed us with open arms. Even though we would often be up until late, she would stay for hours and grace us with her company. We always enjoyed seeing her smiling face. We will miss her very much.

Ganesh and Kaoru

Dear Ravi, Jeeva, Jaya & Dharshi & families,

The news has saddened me because I had a very special relationship with your mother. She was my aunty, a friend, my mentor and I looked up to her for bringing you all up so well and succeeded in seeing every one of you settled in your own family lives. The food that your parents cooked for us, when Pakiam & I first came to England still remains in our taste buds. She was so hospitable every time we visited you in Consfield Avenue. May her soul rest in peace.

Cunju

Dear Auntie, Ever since I met Dharshi, you showered me with kindness and love for the entire period I knew you. You lived with our family in Tring and then Wendover for over 20 years - any person living in your own home for over 20 years is never easy to navigate but your kind-hearted, gentle nature and selflessness made it much easier than I could expect. We will always appreciate your love and your kind, selfless personality lives on through your children and grandchildren.

With Love, Ravi

Tributes to our auntie

Our dearest Sinnamma was an unassuming, fair minded and gentle lady. She was very dutiful and family orientated too-in that she always fulfilled her family duties well and always tried to do her utmost best for her extended family and relatives. We always loved our regular visits to her house in Negombo and enjoyed her tasty dishes - especially her trademark dish Katharikkai Kulambu.

Our earliest memory of her goes back as far as early seventies when she was giving undivided care to our gravely ill Grandma. with strong moral and physical support of our mum. They were both very close , relied on each other for support and guidance with the invaluable help and assistance provided by their loving brothers in Singapore.

In England, she had to juggle with her house shores and her part time work in the early seventies until the untimely passing of our dear uncle Skanda Moorthy in 1978. She was always good to us and was very keen on Tulasii's wellbeing and her career progression. We also are truly grateful to our beloved sinnamma for providing suitable accommodation for Pathma and Raj at the start of their life as a married couple in England.

A small note to add here from Bhama- I too have some pleasant childhood memories of spending some part of my school holidays with Rani Auntie and the kids back home in Colombo and when they lived in Negombo. These were the happiest times. Most importantly when I had my daughter I was almost on my own in Nuneaton and Rani auntie spent a week with me giving me guidance and all the support needed at my hour of need which was gratefully received. I shall cherish these memories for the rest of my life.

During very recent years we sadly witnessed her decline in health, albeit all a very good age which we all wish we can live well into. And now-as part of God's life cyclical process we have come together to witness her passing too. So in addition to saying goodbye to her for the last time, it a very good moment for all of us to remember the good times we had when she was around our lives, and to wish her blessed soul Godspeed and good passage to the next world of the afterlife. She may have gone but never forgotten. Our beloved Rani auntie will remain in our hearts forever. **AUM SHANTHI.**

Pathma, Bhama , Raj, Nagen and Tulasii

Tributes to our auntie

Every Saturday at least, almost every Saturday, a car would miraculously appear in our driveway. I say miraculously, because we never owned a car. Appa would load us all into the car and we were on our way to Negombo. Once we got there, the front door would be open and when Rani Mami saw who had parked in front of her, she would come smiling and welcome us. She was one of the most hospitable, cheerful, and calm persons I know. From 4 kids it now became 7 kids. There was never a day I can remember her raising her voice. And she was an amazing cook! Her curries were absolutely delicious and bursting with flavor. My Amma adored Rani Mami, she told me once she is more than a sister-in-law, she is more like my sister. They would chat and chat, they would also from time to time swap sarees. These are a few of the fond memories I have of Rani Mami. God bless you all!

Sountha Xavier

Dear Ravi, Jeeva, Jaya & Dharshi, I want you guys to rejoice and celebrate Rani mamies life. There are a lot of fond memories I have of your Mom. To name a few, the time we spent in Negambo, going to the beach and buying turtle meat and Rani Mami would cook a delicious meal for us. Also, the time we spent together in the Maradana house. Rani Mami was a gracious and loving person. When we were at Ravi's house, Rani Mami wanted to chat with me from dusk to dawn and the the day we were leaving gave us a wonderful gift. Rani Mami will always be in my heart and she was an amazing woman. God bless you guys.

Your loving cousin, Thamba Anna

My childhood memories are filled with memories of our visits to their seaside home in Negambo, Sri Lanka. She was so welcoming and always so hospitable. She did not have an easy life but she somehow raised her 4 beautiful children. I always thought that she was so pretty. I remember when Uma passed away, the family was staying with us in Maradana. She was so heartbroken yet she was so strong and somehow managed to carry on with life. When Chokka mama went to England on a scholarship, Rani marmi somehow managed. What a strong woman she was.

Kanmany Akka