

IN MEMORIAM

TSENG YUEN LIN

Nicholas Tseng Yuen Lin was born on 9th February 1928. To the family he was always known as "Mel" or "Mellon". A few of his colleagues called him "Horder" after the famous physician, but to most of his friends he was simply known as Lin.

He received his early education in St. Joseph's Institution where he was one of the top students of his time. He joined the then College of Medicine in 1947 and finished in 1953 with the Amber Prize in Surgery. A good student, he showed also a wide interest in many fields. He was for many years a mainstay of the Varsity Musical Society as well as the Medical Faculty Football team. A good violinist, he often provided his friends with both good music and good company at their get-togethers. So modest was he, that only a few knew him to be both a poet and an artist of no mean calibre.

He passed the Primary Examination for the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1958, and was the first Asian to be chosen to train in Australia for the Final part of the F.R.A.C.S. under a Colombo Plan Scholarship. He worked in Australia with the famous neurosurgeon Sir Douglas Miller.

Few people are without faults. Lin was one of the few. Quiet, unassuming, he made no boasts, had no enemies. He was always ready with his smile or with his help. Never known to raise his voice, it could be truly said that he did not know the meaning of anger. As a surgeon he was skilful,

both as a diagnostician and with his hands. He was well-liked not only by those who worked with him but also by those who worked under him — the medical students and even the Theatre Staff. As a teacher he understood the problems of the students for he had acquired his knowledge the hard way. He was at all times considerate and conscientious and this endeared him to both his patients and his staff.

Almost at the beginning of what would inevitably have been a brilliant career as a neurosurgeon, he was taken away from us on 27th September 1962. Ironically enough he passed the last 2 weeks of his earthly life, and died, in the very ward in which he worked so hard to save the lives of many. A staunch Catholic his end was a peaceful one spiritually.

Lin was very much a family man and was always the loving tolerant father, the devoted husband. To Mrs. Connie Tseng and his five children he will always be alive for "to live in hearts one leaves behind is not to die."

Lin has gone, but those who knew him well will always cherish his memory with high regard and affection. To his wife we can but only affirm what he said when he knew death was near, "Darling, do not worry, you have so many good friends around you."

E. K. Koh.

J. J. Murugasu.