

Obituary

Ray Ang - (Ray Ang Lay Beng)

28th April 1948 to 7th January 2022

The Hasher we all new as Hooray, Ray Ang, passed away at NUH Singapore on Friday 7th January 2022 at 3pm. Ray does not have any surviving relatives that we are aware of.

Ray was a stalwart of the hash in Singapore, having been a member of the Men's Hash (Monday), Ladies Hash (Wednesday), Kampong Hash (Saturday) and Sunday Hash (er... Sunday). Indeed, Ray was present at, and founder member of Lion City Hash, clocking up more than 1450 runs with that particular hash alone. Not to mention the runs he made with the other Singapore hashes, plus his regular overseas trips, which also centred around the hash. Ray was definitely a Hashman!

Best remembered as always sporting a baseball cap on his head and skirting the edge of the circle, trying to avoid being summoned for a down down, or was it that just the case that he did not want to remove his cap?

Ray was a bit of an enigma. On the one hand he was a very private man who liked to keep his personal affairs to himself and on the other hand very sociable. Indeed, even now at his passing, still questions remain unanswered as to what he did exactly, where did he live, where were his relatives, if any. Sadly, these questions remain unanswered. Ray only let you know what he wanted you to know, nothing more and nothing less, in keeping with his style. An enigma to the end.

Facts are few and far between, but facts which appear to be correct are, at one time he was a tennis coach, and certainly lived in the USA and Europe. Romantic liaisons as I recall were all ex-pat ladies, which I believe resulted in at least 2 marriages.

One of his proud claims was that he was the author of the original Singapore Tourist Board development master plan and at the time of his death was negotiating to be part of the revised upgrading of this.

Although Ray was a very private man, he was also very sociable. At the hash, he always made a point of welcoming new hashers or visitors. Another thing

he liked to do was share his food experiences. I'm sure many people reading this will have attended Ray's brunches, lunches and dinners at all the prestigious hotels in Singapore. Ray seemed to be a club member of all of them and shared his multiple discounts with all invitees. I'm not really sure exactly what Ray's food & beverage background was, but certainly when dining with him you could be assured that the hotel manager and top chef would visit his table to ensure all was perfect, and on multiple occasions the chef, over and above the vast buffet on offer, would produce a special meal solely for Ray's table. Impressive!

On the other hand, Ray was a complex man who did not endear himself to everybody. He could be stubborn, obstinate and cantankerous, and did not take kindly to perceived slights or actions he thought were detrimental to him. He had a tendency to use litigation or lawyers' cease & desist letters as a first weapon, when perhaps a more diplomatic approach may have resulted in a better outcome. Once Ray had fallen out with somebody, as Ray said himself, there was very rarely a way back.

And that's the way Ray was, he either liked you or not and he didn't really care about being liked as such. We meet all sorts of characters in our lives and particularly at the hash. Ray, you were certainly a character and you won't be forgotten.

RIP old friend! OnOn!