

Santhiramathy Doraisingham (1936-2002), *FAMS*

Dr S Doraisingham (friends knew her as Mathy) graduated from the University of Malaya with MBBS in 1961. I came to know her well after she was transferred from Tan Tock Seng Hospital to the Department of Pathology, Singapore General Hospital (SGH) in the late sixties. After a year's training, she was sent to the University of Manchester to attend a course on Diploma in Bacteriology. She was an outstanding student and came in top of her class.

Upon her return, she was appointed head of the Virology Laboratory. Mathy was tireless in her efforts to build up the laboratory. As she was very knowledgeable of the rapid advances made in virology, the laboratory was soon contributing significantly to the diagnosis, management and control of several virological diseases. By the eighties, she had been invited by the World Health Organization to serve as an expert on several committees. Her diagnostic work on enteroviruses and respiratory viruses gained her international recognition. She was invited to be plenary speaker at a number of virology congresses, both locally and overseas.

Mathy was a good teacher, and was known for her keen mind and communicative skills. She was always willing to share her knowledge with her staff and others. She established high standards in her work, and many came from overseas to learn from her. She chaired the Quality Assurance Committee of the Division of Ambulatory and Clinical Support Services in SGH from 1991 to 1997.

Mathy always had a concern for those who were not well. For over 30 years, she was a visiting doctor to the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Her deep faith in God sustained her throughout her illness, and it was an encouragement to those who visited her. To me, Mathy was an outstanding scholar, a gifted teacher, a meticulous organiser, and a Christian with a deep love for her Lord, and a heart of compassion for the disadvantaged.

Jimmy E H Sng, *FAMS*