



## OBITUARY

**KEE CHIN HIN**  
1938 to 1982

Mr Kee Chin Hin, late Commissioner of the Parks & Recreation Department – a man with the gift of making lifelong friends at first acquaintance, whose warmth, friendliness and genuine interest in people touched all who knew him. His was the boundless enthusiasm for work, for play, which caught and motivated his friends, colleagues and subordinates; his, the ever bubbling spring of ideas which guided and made us strive for greater achievements. His death, a time to ponder on God's will – why someone so alive and full of zest to live, should be wrenched from life so suddenly on 12 April 1982.

Kee Chin Hin was born on 11 April 1938. He embarked on an early career as a teacher and obtained a Certificate in Education in 1962 with a distinction in Science. He went on to pursue a Science Degree at the University of Singapore and graduated with Honours in Zoology in 1968. He joined the Primary Production Department in the same year and was soon assigned the task of re-organising the Jurong Fishing Port/Central Fish Market and within a short period of time he achieved the transfer of all the small auction markets in the City area to the Central Fish Market and made it into a flourishing centre. In recognition of this work he was awarded the Efficiency Medal in the 1970 National Day Honours.

Having proven himself to be a good administrator, Mr Kee was, in addition to his duties in the Primary Production Department given the responsibility of co-ordinating the activities of the Garden City Action Committee of the Ministry of National Development. This work was tackled with characteristic efficiency and enthusiasm and he was consequently seconded to the Parks & Recreation Division PWD when it was formed in 1973. In the same year also did he obtain his Diploma in Business Administration from the same University. In his capacity as Assistant Commissioner in the Parks & Recreation Department, in charge of Planning and Development, he did much outstanding work in the implementation of development programmes for the construction of our major parks, the

most notable of which being East Coast Park. He was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Bronze) in the 1976 National Day Honours. Mr Kee's drive and guidance to the Department never wavered throughout his service and he rose to hold the position of Commissioner of Parks & Recreation in February 1982. He was honoured posthumously with the Silver Medal for Public Administration on National Day.

Mr Kee was also instrumental in founding the School of Ornamental Horticulture, which celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. The School is serving an important function in providing Singapore and the regional countries with expertise much needed in tropical horticulture. In addition to being Chairman of the School Board, Mr Kee was at the time of his death, also a Trustee of the Nature Reserves Board, Director of Primary Industries Enterprise (Pte) Ltd, Member of the Executive Committee of Sembawang Country Club and Vice-President of the Ministry of National Development Recreation Club.

Mr Kee's enthusiasm and involvement in his work for the Parks & Recreation Department knows no parallel and no other officer can lay as much claim to having been so closely involved with or having contributed so much to Singapore's Garden City Campaign.

Kee Chin Hin leaves behind his wife, Margie, and two daughters, Adeline and Yi Li. We share the pain and grief for their loss.

**Parks & Recreation Department**