



Mr Vasant Sawant

July 26, 1926 - June 19, 2024

Vasant Narayan Sawant of Clemson, South Carolina passed away on June 19th, 2024. Born in Maharashtra, India on July 26th, 1926, he was a well-loved husband, father, brother, and grandfather.

He was also an explorer, adventurer, and talented engineer who learned to speak Spanish like a Chilean, drink tea like a Turk, became an honorary Texan, and flew around the world on Pan-Am many times, receiving a world citizen certificate. He was a gentle man, fiercely loyal to his family, and a responsible pillar to his friends. He was a storyteller and the keeper of at least 3 generations of oral history. From his family home in Kurla, a suburb of Bombay, he went on to England and Montreal, where he raised two daughters with his wife Vrinda. Eventually, despite limited quotas for Indian immigrants, he relocated to Washington D.C. and later retired from California's Silicon Valley after a distinguished 40-year career spent pushing boundaries in telecommunications engineering and technology.

In his final 30 years, he was a devoted grandfather and visited India and our extended family multiple times. We will miss his ready smile, easygoing nature, and love of good conversation and good food. From his example, we learned integrity, honor, respect, responsibility, generosity, and love.

He is survived by Vrinda Sawant, his wife of 67 years, daughters Sheila and

Anjali, granddaughters Sonia and Rachel, son-in-law Robert, grandson-in-law Kevin along with many nieces, nephews, and friends.

His memory will live forever in our hearts. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to a charity of your choice.

“Salud, amor, pesetas; y tiempo para gastarlas.”

To health, love, money, and the time to spend it.

Mountain View Funerals and Cremations Seneca Chapel is assisting the Sawant family.

Tribute Wall

KA

“ We got to know Vasant Sawant through his sister-in-law Jaya Naidu Bercovitch, our friend and neighbour in Montreal. She always talked lovingly about her family, but when she mentioned Vasant, she talked about him with great respect.

We finally met him and his wife Vrinda (Jaya's sister). He was a gentle and kind man who had a great sense of humour and an infectious laugh. He was a true gentleman.

We still have fond memories of our last visit with Vasant and Vrinda a year ago, when we visited Sheila and Bob and went along with them to see their parents in their residence. During that visit, Vasant was especially chatty and told stories about his life. What was shining through in all the tales about how he dealt with adverse situations and outright discrimination was his sense of fairness, his sense of dignity and his witty sense of humour. He also expressed his love for his family and his love for life.

We will miss him and his wonderful laughter!

We like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the mourning family.
Mark and Kathy Aulls

Katharina and Mark Aulls - June 30, 2024 at 11:57 AM

SS

“ *Celebrating the Life of a Visionary*

Vasant, as he was fondly called by his brothers and sisters, and Vasant Uncle (Kaka) by others from Kurla, India will be dearly missed. His life was marked by extraordinary achievements and a deep commitment to family. As the first from the Sawant family to explore the world, he inspired many, including me, to follow in his footsteps and pursue the American dream.

A great orator and storyteller, he preserved the rich oral history of at least three generations, sharing tales from his childhood and time spent with the Kurla clan. He was also fond of Classical Indian music, which added a melodic touch to his vibrant personality.

One cherished memory is when my family visited his home in Charlotte. He prepared ‘Apple Cobbler’ and ‘Chicken do Pyaza,’ and we had a wonderful time listening to his stories from his childhood. His hospitality and storytelling left a lasting impression on all of us.

He will always be remembered for his jovial character and deep love for his family. May God grant him peace and give courage to his family during this difficult time.

Shirish Sawant - June 26, 2024 at 11:13 AM

SS

“ *Have fond memories of Vasant Mama (as called lovingly by my wife). It was a pleasure visiting and spending some time with him in Charlotte in the couple of our Charlotte visits. Remember his pleasant and cheerful personality and the blueberry cobbler he had made once for us. May he rest in peace.*

Shri Sinha - June 25, 2024 at 11:54 PM

GS

“ Wishing my heartfelt condolences to the family, and keeping you in my thoughts and prayers. I remember Great-Granduncle visiting us in 1993 and 2006. Still have fond memories of the 2006 visit to Mumbai, when he vividly narrated stories from his early life in Bombay, and brought the family gathering to life. Growing up, as an Indian child, it was fascinating to hear, from my dad, stories he told dad in previous visits. It is a rare privilege, an honor for an Indian extended family to have a member who, in the 1950s, overcame challenges, built a new life, and became a telecommunications expert while raising a great family in the USA. For me, he symbolized the American dream, and the story of his life - what passion, hard work and courage can accomplish - continues to inspire me today.

Gaurav Sawant - June 25, 2024 at 11:35 PM

YO

“ We have such wonderful memories of Vasant uncle! He was so full of love and happiness 😊. We always looked forward to his visit to India and we have wonderful memories of visiting him in Charlotte in 2008. He will always be remembered fondly with love and respect by all of us. May his soul attain sadgati. Om Shanti 🙏🙏



yogi - June 25, 2024 at 09:16 PM

DB

“ I have known Vasant for about a year. I saw him and Vrinda frequently and they were always very pleasant and he was more talkative. We stopped to discuss events in the neighborhood. He was so warm and welcoming and made you feel good just to see him. He was a true gentleman and I will miss him. I am sorry for his family's and friend's loss.

Donna Brazeal - June 25, 2024 at 09:03 PM