



Lucky Sands

February 16, 2010

Lucky Sands, 45, of Cape Girardeau died Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2010, at Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Washington, D.C. She was born Aug. 2, 1964, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to Lal and Cynthia Herath. Lucky grew up in Sri Lanka, where she started her education at Ladies College in Colombo. She continued her higher education at Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO), where she graduated with a degree in economics and business administration. She later joined the U.S. Army Reserves and served more than 10 years, including a tour of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom. She was a member of VFW Post 3838 and American Legion Post 63. Survivors include a daughter, Ceylon Herath of Cape Girardeau; her parents, Lal Herath and Cynthia Herath of Colombo; grandmother, Maggie Jayakody of Colombo; former husband, Stephen Sands of Sikeston, Mo.; a brother, Roshan Herath; a sister-in-law, Stefanie Herath; a niece, Rebecca Herath; and two nephews, Kristian and Jonathan Herath, all of Buckinghamshire, U.K. Friends may call from 10 a.m. to noon Monday at Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Funeral Home. The funeral will be at noon Monday at the funeral home, with the Rev. Timothy Lee officiating. Burial will be in Missouri State Veterans Cemetery at Bloomfield. Memorial contributions may be given to The Apostolic Promise Church of Cape Girardeau.

Tribute Wall

AF

“ lucky akki I still remember the first time I met you you came to visit my brother as you both were study buddy's. you came in with a big smile and treated me and my sister as your own. we met many times after and we got to talk about lot of things. you were such a fun person to be around. we missed you when you left the country. but always remembered you. you came up in many conversations me lauri and my brother had but never got a chance to contact you. the conversations were always the fun things you did or how you always treated peopls so kindly.so lucky akki we are so sad that you have to leave your loving daughter parents and brother his family and all of us so soon. but your good nature will be remembered for a very long time to come . SO REST IN PEACE REST IN PEACE

ayanthi yapa and family - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Dear Lal, Cynthia, Ceylon, Roshan & family, There are no words to express the sorrow we felt when we heard the sad news. We remember the days Lakmini used to come and spend time with us in Dubai, it was always fun to have her around and we loved her company. Though we could not keep in touch after she left for USA, we always inquire after her from her aunty here in Melbourne. We hope you will have the strength to go though this difficult time. Please let us know if we could be of any help Please accept our deepest sympathies.

Rohan & Deepthi Seneviratne - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Dear Cynthia, Lal, Roshan and members of the family of the later Lucky..... Please accept my sincere sympathies on the loss of your dear Lucky. Regards Mrs Chapman 223/1, Kadawela Road, Pannipitiya 10230 Sri Lanka Tel: 94112840041

Christobel Chapman - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ Our Sincere Condolences go out to Aunty, Uncle, Roshan and family not forgetting little Ceylon. Our thoughts and Prayers our with you. Our Sincere Condolences go out to Aunty, Uncle, Roshan and family. May Lucky RIP Adrian, Tanuja, Aaron, Ryan and Kaelan

Tanuja - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ I knew lucky and the family since i was 5 years old. We were neighbors and loved playing with you and Roshan. We lost touch for a while but then again happened to be in the same youth group when we were teenagers. Great memories.. great girl... Our condolences to Roshan, Aunty Cynthia and Uncle Lal. From all your old church friends at Navinna.

Laurian Chapman - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Dear Mr & Mrs Herath, we know how much you loved your daughter and you treated our children as yours. Thats why all the children like you and loved you. You very were rare people with great human qualities. We are sure that your duaghter and grand daughter are rich with all those qualities of ours. May your daughter's sweet memories fill your life. God bless you. Shirani & Suranjith from Sri Lanka

Shirani & Suranjith Godagama - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Dear Mrs Cynthia,our deepest sympathies to you and your family. As all know, you have never been the ordinary teacher. You taught us our discipline, and good qualities. We are sure that your daughter too would have been the same. We have never met her yet we are sure she would have been the same.She was surely meant for you and you for her. May you have all the courage to carry on amongst all barriers. Your granddaughter is also remembered at this moment.She was lucky to have such a brave mother. May she rest in peace, and god bless you.

Sanaree and Sanura Godagama - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ God will wipe away every tear from their eyes;there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. Revelation 21;4

manojini liyanage - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Dear Ceylon, "WORDS DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO SOOTHE OUR TROUBLED HEARTS, FOR TIME ALONE CAN EASE THE PAIN THAT LIFE SOMETIMES IMPARTS... BUT MAY THESE WORDS OF SYMPATHY HELP SHOW YOU THAT WE CARE, AND MAY THEY SOMEHOW SOFTEN THE SORROW YOU NOW BEAR." We were deeply grieved to hear the sad loss of your beloved mother. In our eyes she was no ordinary woman. She was a woman with extraordinary courage & bravery. It is an honour for all of us Sri Lankans in Missouri that she sacrificed her life for her adopted country. This is not something just anybody could do. To many of the young Sri Lankan students here, she was an older sister better known as "Lucky akka". We all remember the great sportsmanship she demonstrated on the cricket field. We know that nothing we say or do can ease the pain in your heart. Please remember you have been in our thoughts at this difficult time.

Sri Lankan Community of St. Louis - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Sri Lankan Community of St. Louis - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LM

“*Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.*” 1 John 3:18 *Our daughter Lucky was given to us when we prayed our first-born to be a daughter. And now the time has come to praise God for the 45 years of joy the Lord gave us to have her around. As parents we prayed the Lord to use our children in His service. We have realized that He had been using her in a very special way as she did not let the right hand know what the left did. She had dreams for us and many came true. Her main dream was her daughter. By God’s grace, that dream would also come true. We praise God for her short life during which as a teenager she was instrumental in bringing Christ into our family. Our lives will not be the same until we see her again. May she rest in Peace, safe in the arms of Jesus!*

Lal & Cynthia Herath (Dad & Mum) - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Lucky: I am so deeply saddened to lose such a wonderful person. You know I will always see you as a guardian angel looking out for us. You so deeply loved your nation and fought proudly to defend it. You never gave a thought to quitting. It was not it was not in your vocabulary. You always wanted to defend, protect and help everyone. I am so sad that we could not protect and help you more. Ceylon you will one day know how many sacrifices that your mother went through to make sure you had freedom and anything in life you needed. You were never far from her thought and always put first. Everything she did was to show you how to grow up as an outstanding women, perfect citizen and promote person in society. I love you girl take care. Steve hang in there my friend you and I know that Lucky had a special place in her heart for you. Maybe stubborn but always continued to love you. If you need anything just drop a line. To all her family , our Lucky was amazing!!! Never ever forget what wonderful moments she brought to our lives!! Love Jeff and Tina

Tina Rosanswank - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Ceylon, Mr. & Mrs. Herath, Steve, Scott, family & friends, I am very sad to hear about Lucky's death. She leaves a void, but she would trust God to fill it. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Love, Cindy

Cindy Mobley Willis - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ *My Dearest Lucky, no words can express the sadness I feel! You were an amazing person, and will always be in my mind and heart, you left a lasting impression on everyone's life, you will be remembered for your beauty inside and out, your humor and most importantly your upbeat personality. You will be greatly missed, but never forgotten, you are in a better place now and you are now finally at rest, I will miss you!*

Tanuja De Niese - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *Dear Herath Family, Daughter Ceylon, Steve and all loved ones of Lucky: It is truly so sad and difficult to see your loved one pass on. But this is the time that you gather strength from your church, your friends and your family. Lucky was a dynamic person who lovingly touched so many lives, so cry you will and do things in her memory that you feel will honor her! Ceylon, you will gather your strength and love from your Mom's time on this Earth! Carry on the greatness she demonstrated as a beautiful lady and a wonderful human being. We send you many hugs from Upper Montgomery Composite Squad./Civil Air Patrol/(Maureen's Squadron)Germantown, Md. May God send you His Mighty Strength through your difficult days! Sandy Wright-Claggett, and members (many of whom are Ceylon's age :)*

Sandy Wright-Claggett (Maureen's friend) - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *My sincere condolences to Lucky's family and daughter. I worked with Lucky at Kent Library. She was a wonderful person. She will be deeply missed.*

Robin Malone - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Lucky was a fighter. She had a vibrance and charisma that drew people in. She was a proud, protective mother and she will be missed very much. God's richest blessings to each and every one of her loved ones.

Marji Clemens Amacker - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ Dear Miss Cynthia and family, We were very sad at hearing your beloved daughter had passed away. We offer our condolence and hope god will give you the strength to carry on Our thoughts are with you Nalika, Nipunika, Piyangi and Harsha

Nalika Weerakoon - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Dear Cynthia and Lal please accept our heart felt condolences. We spread loving kindness to both of you to build up mental and physical strength and to heal your pain. This is the best time to memorise the good deeds she had done to everybody Swarna and Jayantha Australia

Swarna and Jayantha-Sydney Australia - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ CONDOLENCES TO CYNTHIA, LAL AND LUCKY'S HUSBAND AND THE CHILD. I MET LUCKY IN AL AIN AT GUNANGANIE'S HOUSE, IN 80s WHEN SHE WAS A TEENAGER. MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE.

Catherine - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NC

“ Lucky you were a very sweet person and I will miss you the 6 years I have known you have been great and you will never be forgotten! Thanks for Serving your country and protecting us!

Nathan Cromwell - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Dear Cynthia, Lal, Roshan and Ceylon, I am very sorry for your loss. Lucky was adventurous and a free spirit. While she was at Walter Reed we had a chance to go out and explore the city. I will always remember the good times we shared. She remained strong and courageous throughout her illness. She was so fortunate to have such loving and devoted parents and brother. And she was blessed to have a truly beautiful and loving daughter. With all my love, Maureen

Maureen Williams - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Dear Lal and Cynthia. My deepest sympathy for the loss of Lucky. I was shocked and saddened by the news. I so enjoyed the time we spent to gather. You are beautiful people. Lucky was fortunate to have such loving and devoted parents. I will always treasure the breif time I knew and enjoyed my friendship with lucky. God bless you and your family during this sorrowful time. Sincerely Mary Jo

Mary Jo La France - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ My deepest condolences to the family, I meet Lucky many years ago when she started her studies in Cape, she was the most friendly and vivacious woman that I had ever meet. She had one of the brightness smiles and never meet a stranger. She will be missed!

kimberley davidson - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GU

“ Dearest Cynthia, Lal & Roshan, No words of sympathy can really help to ease your sorrow at this moment. Even I was deeply saddened hearing the news. We must always remember not just she died but she lived and gave us beautiful memories and they will grow more precious year by year. I still remember the fun we had when Lakmini stayed with me for few days at my residence in Al Ain. That was before she went to States for studies but it was like yesterday. I will always cherish those memories. Cynthia, even I could not be there with you at this time of grief you are always in my thoughts and prayers to give you strength and courage to go through this most difficult time of your life. Gunanganie Tawam Hospital Al Ain United Arab Emirates 21 February 2010

Gunanganie - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ Lucky was my classmate at Ladies' College, but got the opportunity to meet up with her once since leaving school. I was very proud of her since she was in the US army. My sincere condolences go to Aunty, Uncle, Ceylon and all family members. May she rest in peace God bless her soul Nilo

Nilanthi Attygalle De Silva - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Our Sincere Condolences go out to Aunty, Uncle, Roshan and family. May Lucky rest in Peace, safe in the arms of Jesus! 20th Feb 2010

Kalika & Bimal - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Good bye Lucky, we will always remember you and Ceylon will be in our hearts.

Matt and Kate Hampton - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Our dear friend, our hearts are heavy at your being taken from us. The Thur Group want to thank you for your spirit, smiles and friendship. Thursday Veterans support group.

Jim Stroman - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Lucky became a very dear friend to me, she taught me strength and courage, I will miss our time spent together, but will always remember her smile and laugh. My heart goes out to her parents dear daughter. May God be with them though their time of sorrow. And may they always remember that Lucky was loved by many. She was a beautiful lady with a huge heart. My sincere condolences to Cynthia, Lal and Ceylon.

Linda Sparks - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ I too was Fortunate enough to have served in the 1140th with Lucky. She was a Wonderful person, and an Excellent Soldier, and I can hardly believe she's gone. I Hope her family is comforted somewhat in the knowledge that Lucky had many friends in the 1140th, and will be deeply missed. My Deepest Sympathies to her family and friends.

Troy L. Cowell - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ I wish to express my condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Herath, her brother and family and Ceylon for their loss. Lucky was my HERO. She put herself in harm's way to protect our country and paid the ultimate price with her own life. I can't--in my wildest dreams-- imagine how brave she was to honor our country in this way. Jess and I cared very deeply for Lucky. We met when he purchased jewelry from Lucky and discovered they shared a military background. She respected him in this regard. We developed a deeper relationship when I managed my son's deli, Cozmo's. We spent many hours together there talking over her favorite drink--our carmel machiatto. She wouldn't let anyone else but me make it for her. She shared her lovely daughter, Ceylon, with me as well. My heart goes out to Lal and Cynthia, to Ceylon, and all those who respected and loved her as Jess and I did. This carmel machiatto's for you, my dear friend! May you rest in a well-deserved peace!
BOOTS AND JESS JESSUP

Ervin (Jess) and Elizabeth (Boots) Jessup - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Shanthi Akka & Lal Aiya Accept our deepest sympathies Our prayers are with you Sasanka & Damayanthi

Sasanka & Damayanthi - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SD

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Sasanka & Damayanthi - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FR

“ My Sincere Condolences go out to Family and Friends.

Frank Cruse, Chaplain-Ch63 Legion Riders - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Lucky, You were such a wonderful person and soldier. It was evident you loved the Army and your daughter, Ceylon! I'll forever remember the wonderful times and lovely stories we shared at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Although we hate to see you go, we know that God knows what's best for all of us. When I look up and see a star, I will see you. Rest in Peace...my friend! Sandy, United States Air Force Ceylon, you are the strongest, bravest, and smartest young girl I know. I know that you and your Mom shared a special bond. Although it may be difficult for you, please keep smiling and doing well in school and later in life....your Mom made so many sacrifices for her baby. She will always light the way for you. Keep making us proud. As we discussed...God does not make any mistakes. He knows what's best for all of us. I love you, dear. Your play Mom in DC...Sandy Steve, you gave her flowers while she could smell them. Thank you for trying to take care of her and bringing Ceylon to visit her. Your sacrifices made Ceylon so happy to be able to tell her mother she loved her prior to her expiration. You hang in there! Keep your faith strong in the Lord. He would not give you a burden that you couldn't bear! Sandy Mr. & Mrs. Herath and family, you had a wonderful daughter and you, too, gave her flowers while she could smell them. Lucky was lucky to have you as parents. She knew you were there for her every step of the way. Always remember the good times and let them outweigh the "not so good" ones. Sandy Scott.....stay strong!

Chief Master Sergeant Sandy P. Ware - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WK

“ Our prayers are with Lal and Cynthia and Ceylon. We are asking God to stay close to you during your days and weeks of sorrow. We are here for you if you need a shoulder to lean on. The Kaufmans - The Apostolic Promise Church - Assistant Pastor

W.L. & Joan Kaufman - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ It seems like only yesterday you joined our National Guard unit in Cape Girardeau with me as your sergeant. I will always remember you as the girl who enjoyed beating most of the guys in the 2 mile run. I will always remember your everpresent smile and your enthusiasm for life. May you rest in peace.

Kenny Brown - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Akki, I love you and miss you very much. We didn't spend much time together on this earth. I am sad that you had to go so soon but I am looking forward to see you one day and then we will be together...forever...

Roshan Herath - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Deepest sympathies to the family of Lucky Sands. Sincerely,
Tharanga De Silva and Family

Tharanga De Silva - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Deepest sympathy extended to the Sands and Herath family. Maithri Samaradivakara & family. London

Maithri Samaradivakara - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM