

assignment, he explained how he and a colleague had to quickly leave the country after being pressured to approve a contract.

Retirement did not mean that Daddy rested on his laurels. He was always saying: "Whatever is resting is rusting." He initially continued working as a consultant for Crown Agents. But he was also a landlord and he was also always finding some work to do in the house. He was the go-to person for unofficial financial advice for us and for many of his friends. He always willing to provide valuable advice, even if it was not always requested, but on hindsight he was more right than wrong. For as long as he was able, he was an active swimmer and, even up to the day he went into hospital, he was using the exercise bike. He even learnt how to make Idli.

In 2023, Mummy and Daddy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. In June this year, Daddy was able to celebrate his 80th birthday but he wanted to keep it small as it was shortly before his heart operation, as he did not want to catch any infection that might lead to a postponement. 2025 would have marked 40 years of living in the same house in Sutton.

Daddy always valued education. He always told me that "money comes and goes but no-one can take away education". Through his efforts, I was able to study as far as I did and achieve another one of his sayings: "If I jump one foot, you should jump three feet."

Daddy was technically minded and, before smart phones were even invented, he was always finding ways to connect his speakers and Hifi so that he could control the music from any room. For me, he was also the first port-of-call for any device or equipment that was not working; now I cannot ask him to have a look at it. It was because that he bought an Apple II computer (pre-Mac) when we were young – he said he was the first among his friends to do so - that I became interested in computer programming and learnt how to use a word processor. As he moved from the Apple II to Windows PCs, my interest and knowledge in computer programming developed.

I can vividly remember when he tried, in his own time, to work with another Tamil friend to develop a new database application to improve processes at work.

I also remember how he would use 1980s printing software to edit home videos with fancy title screens.

He was also big on recycling old furniture and technology and getting the most out of it, before recycling became fashionable. He did not like to throw things