## THE AMAZING UNCLE WONG

## by Ramli Bahari

Wong Toong Fook, 59, an ex-serviceman, fondly known as Uncle Wong, is someone who literally sings daily to the Kampong Tunku post-office (similar *to many other happy people who laugh all the way to the banks)*. He believes that his true fortune is the kindness and happiness bestowed upon him in life.

He retired as a KLM Security Supervisor in May 1999. Many years of faithful service to KLM coupled with his integrity and security experiences won him to be accepted as a Motorola vendor in June 1999 to handle KLM mail services. He is blessed with an irrepressible spirit with a huge sense of humor. Few privileged people have caught glimpses of this virtue.

To date, he has retired twice. In response to the question as to when he should retire the third time, he said, "It is the day when I reach the post office, collect the mails and then realize that I do not know how to get back to Motorola".

One of his other chores is to help settle KLM's utility bills. One day, he handed a million Ringgit cheque to the TNB drive-in pay counter. The lady at the counter could not help notice Uncle Wong's new Kancil and said, "That's a new car and nice color too".

Whilst endorsing the cheque, she cynically commented to another lady at the adjacent counter, "Bill in the millions but drives a Kancil". She looked back at Wong and asked him how much was the installment for this new model. Uncle Wong who heard the earlier remark quickly replied, "I do not know. I paid cash for it". Wong later confessed that his pride was at stake.

Uncle Wong often shares his aspirations with his many friends and when any discussion comes to money, he would say, "To me, money is not everything but my ancestor said money means everything. With money, even the ghost can make way for the crowd".

During the weekends, Uncle Wong wastes no opportunities to tour with his wife to places like the Gua Tempurong, Kellies' Castle, Fire Flies Park, Nature Rock Formation, Animal World (Safari), French Village, Ostrich Farm and many other exciting local tourist attractions.

When asked what is exciting in his job, he said, "Everything is in the mind. It's your choice to make it happy or otherwise".

As for health, Uncle Wong is very conscious when it comes to sugar consumption. "Even ants die of sugar!" is his comment.

Personal security is an important aspect in one's life. For him, the 'security culture' is like second nature to him. The excellent KLM mailing program is a silent tribute to his able efforts.

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