



IN LOVING MEMORY

Pritpal "Pal" Chawla

March 11, 1942 - May 27, 2021

Peacefully and surrounded by those he loved most, Pal Chawla passed away on Thursday, May 27th, 2021. A dear friend of the Manitoba Badminton Association and long-time coach, Pal was a well-loved and deeply respected member of our community. The MBA, its Board of Directors, along with its members across the province grieve this loss and send our love to the Chawla family.

Pal was a pillar of the badminton community in our province and touched the lives of so many, from the moment he arrived in Canada in 1967, following a successful competitive career in India. After a three-year stint working at the Wildewood Club, Pal coached one year at the Wascana Winter Club in Regina before returning to Manitoba in 1971 where he began 40 years of coaching at the Winnipeg Winter Club. This incredible 44-year career of service is still recognized today as the longest of any badminton professional in North America, and set the bar incredibly high for coaches wanting to follow in his footsteps. As a builder of the Manitoban badminton community and a leader in our sport here in the province, Pal was recognized for his contributions and inducted in the Badminton Canada Hall of Fame in 2016.

As we celebrate Pal's on-court accomplishments and dedication to coaching, let's also remember his legacy as one of kindness, generosity, and service to others. He was a man who coached world-class competitors, while still taking the time to say hello and chat with grassroots athletes walking through the Winter Club's doors or stepping onto its courts. His commitment to our sport helped shape the community we know and love.

At this time, our hearts go out to Surinder, Ami, and Puneet, as well as the extended Chawla family. While Pal was a coach to many, he was a husband and father first. Thank you for sharing him with all of us. The man you loved so dearly will be greatly missed.

