



**Ilham Raafat, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Eastbourne Hospitals**

Ilham Raafat died suddenly of a coronary thrombosis on 11 May 1994 at the height of a very active life full of achievements.

He was born in Cairo, educated at Victoria College, Cairo and at the University of Cairo (MB BCh, 1961). In the UK he worked at the Crichton Royal and Fulbourn Hospitals prior to being appointed Consultant at Hellingly Hospital in Sussex in 1973.

In the last twenty years Ilham had a major influence on the development of psychiatric services in the Eastbourne area. Not content with being an excellent clinician, he kept generating new projects which he then pursued forcefully to completion with a strong intolerance of any delay.

He first championed the cause of the elderly and, having established good facilities for them, moved on to reorganise services in adult psychiatry as one of the first Consultant General Managers while retaining his clinical role. He set up the Department of Psychiatry in Eastbourne and developed good community resources which allowed for a well-planned closure of Hellingly Hospital. His interest was always with the most severely ill patients, in particular chronic schizophrenics, and he made very sure that none of them would be left without adequate support and that their condition would continue to be monitored in the community through a rigorous research project which he presented to TAPS.

His functions included member of the District Health Authority, Chairman of the

Psychiatric Division, General Manager, Regional Adviser, Examiner for the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Chairman of the South Thames Regional Sub-Committee as well as Medical Director of the Eastbourne Clinic.

In his last year he was awarded a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship to study community services in Verona and Washington, and had just been awarded a Churchill medal for his work when he died. His report was published in the *British Journal of Clinical and Social Psychiatry* in May 1995 (vol. 9, no. 3).

He was a man of passionate feelings and interests, with a wide knowledge of literature, painting and music. He maintained strong links with his own country and belonged to the Egyptian Medical Society. His most profound attachment was to his two children, Omar and Zena, whom he brought up with his wife Christine, a Clinical Psychologist, sharing his love of the arts with his family.

FRANÇOISE M. HUTTON

**The deaths of the following have also been reported:**

DEREK EDWARDS DYER, Consultant Psychiatrist, Maidstone Hospital, Kent. 46 The Dive, Bexley, Kent

DAVID HEDLEY ENNALS, House of Lords, London. 16 Ingram Road, London

JOHN MCHUGH, Consultant Psychiatrist, Rossendale RHA. Lakeside Lodge, Skipton Road, Foulridge, Colne, Lancs

GEORGE SAKALIS, Evangelismos General Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, Irsilantou 45 Str, Athens 10676