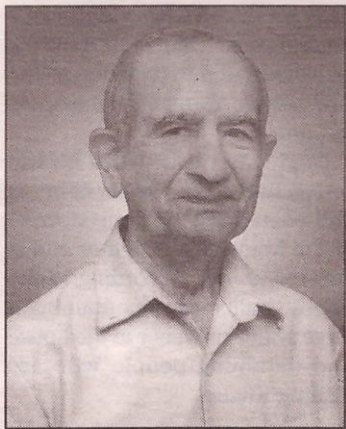


Father Saves 5 Lives Through Organ Transplant



Vir Bhan Choudhary, whose daughter is appealing to the Indian American community to become organ donors. (photo courtesy of Seema Choudhary)

By a Staff Reporter

IRVINE, Calif. — Reportedly for the first time at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi, organs were transplanted from 77-year-old Vir Bhan Choudhary and, as a result, five people got new life from his donated organs.

His daughter, Dr. Seema Choudhary, who lives in Irvine and runs Ace Montessori Pre-schools, said that her father believed in helping his family, friends and community all the time.

He retired as a vice principal from one of the Delhi government schools 18 years ago and was a social activist.

He is survived by his wife, five daughters, sons-in-law and nine grandchildren.

“My father, a heart patient, developed difficulty in breathing and immediately hospitalized on Feb. 14. On being declared brain dead after four days of treatment, it was not easy for the family members to take this decision during emotional upheavals,” his daughter Seema Choudhary said. “We stayed strong and supported the noble cause of donating his organs. My father always believed in giving to society throughout his life, even before dying, he himself had committed to donate his eyes.”

Seema Choudhary is appealing to the Indian American community to become organ donors to donate organs to the needy. By choosing to become an organ donor, they may save or improve the lives of up to ten people who have serious or life-threatening illnesses, she said. For these people, organ or tissue transplantation may mean a second chance at life, or an improved quality of life.

Those wishing more information should visit the www.americantransplantfoundation.org/about-transplant/facts-and-myths/ Web site.