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A hero's farewell



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IT WAS a funeral befitting a national hero that Tun Abdul Ghafar Baba had become through his 49 years of service to the nation and people.

Thousands of people from all walks of life turned up at the National Mosque to bid farewell to the man who declined to have titles and remained "Encik Ghafar" throughout his long service in government.

Ghafar, 81, who died of heart, lung and kidney complications at 7.34am yesterday at the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre in Jalan Ampang, was laid to rest at the Heroes' Mausoleum in the mosque compound after *Asar* prayers.

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FINAL GOODBYE: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi sprinkling flower petals on Ghafar's grave at the Heroes Mausoleum in the National Mosque in Kuala Lumpur yesterday watched by Ghafar's son, Tamrin, family members, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor and other mourners.
— STARpic by AZHAR MAHFOF