

NEW STRAITS TIMES

DATE: 25/1/2010

# Tun Ghazali dies at 88

• **By Lee Shi-lan,  
Azura Abas and  
R. Sittamparam**  
[news@nst.com.my](mailto:news@nst.com.my)

PETALING JAYA: Former home minister Tun Mohd Ghazali Shafie died at his house in Subang Jaya yesterday. He was 88.

His nephew, Adam Azman, said Ghazali died of natural causes at 7.45pm.

Ghazali's body was later taken to the house of his sister, Datin Yuhanis Shade, in Damansara Jaya.

Adam said his uncle's body would be taken to Masjid Negara, where he would be buried at 11am today.

Ghazali, nicknamed "King Ghaz" by the press, was born on March 22, 1922 in Kuala Lipis, Pahang.

He received his tertiary education in Raffles College in Singapore, before earning his law degree from the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth in 1951.

Two years later, he obtained his postgraduate certificate in international studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Ghazali was a member of the much-vaunted Force 136



Tun Mohd Ghazali Shafie survived a plane crash in 1982 during the Japanese occupation of Malaya.

He joined the Malayan Administrative Service as a deputy assistant district officer in Lipis.

In 1955, he was attached to the Malayan High Commission in London and the British High Commission in New Delhi.

This was followed a year later with his posting as permanent representative to the United Nations.

As permanent secretary

(later to be known as secretary-general) of the External Affairs Ministry (later Foreign Affairs Ministry), he was a project officer for the formulation of Malaysia in 1961 and a member of the Cobbold Commission.

Apart from the home ministry, he also helmed the information and foreign ministries.

He was active in various sports, leading the Malaysian Amateur Athletics Union during the glory days from 1962 to 1989.

Although he was instrumental in the formation of

Malaysia and served the country for decades, Ghazali admitted to the *New Straits Times* in a 2005 interview that he would probably be best remembered for surviving a plane crash.

On Jan 10, 1982, a Cessna 206 piloted by Ghazali, who was a life president of the Royal Selangor Flying Club, crashed in Kampung Janda Baik.

Ghazali, who was then foreign minister, survived the crash when he landed on clumps of bamboo but his bodyguard and co-pilot were killed.