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PM pays last respects to Ku Li's wife

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak paid his last respects to Gua Musang member of parliament Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah's late wife at the family home in Jalan Langgak Golf here yesterday morning.

Cik Puan Sri Noor Yvonne Abdullah died on Friday night at the Sime Darby Medical Centre in Subang Jaya, where she was being treated for a rare type of cancer, multiple myeloma.

"This is a big loss. Noor Yvonne was not only a good wife, but was very supportive of Razaleigh and his career. My deepest condolences to the whole family," Najib said.

At the burial ground in Jalan Ampang Muslim cemetery, the scorching weather suddenly turned gloomy as Noor Yvonne's body was laid to rest.

About 50 family members and close friends of the family gathered to pay their last respects.

Her grandniece, Tengku Nazeehah Tengku Mahmood, 36, said her



grandmother died peacefully, surrounded by her loved ones.

"She had multiple myeloma for about a year and a half, but in recent months, her condition worsened because of an infection.

"You know the saying that behind a strong man there is a stronger woman. She was the woman who had always been with him (Tengku Razaleigh) and, even though she had never been in the limelight, she was

his most ardent supporter," she said.

Present at the cemetery was Datin Farahnaz Aminy Jamaluddin, 46, whose mother had tutored Noor Yvonne in Bahasa Malaysia for the past 10 years.

"My mum (Datuk Sabehah Salleh, 78) always brought me along to Puan Sri's house. She would also bring her favourite local delicacy, 'taufoofa' which they would eat together during lessons. They were great friends.

"My mum was so devastated by the news that she has had trouble sleeping.

"We will miss her tremendously. She was a friendly and humble woman," she said adding that the last conversation they had was on April 14, when she was invited to a *yassin* recital held at her house.

Another friend of Yvonne, Salmah Ishak, 63, said she never knew Yvonne was suffering from cancer.

"She would never fail to invite us to her house. The last time was during Ramadan last year, where she hosted *terawih* prayers."