

Comedy Actor Harun Salim Bachik Dies

Bernama

Mar 8, 2015

KUALA LUMPUR, March 8 (Bernama) -- Comedy actor Harun Salim Bachik died today after he was reported to have suddenly collapsed at the Gunung Semanggol rest and relaxation (R&R) area in Perak.

Former Seniman deputy president, Elyas Iskandar Ismail said he was informed of the incident by Harun's family members, who were with him at the location of the incident.

"He suddenly collapsed at about 4.15 pm when he was walking towards the restrooms at the R&R on the return trip from Penang to Kuala Lumpur with his wife and children after attending a wedding," he told Bernama when contacted Sunday.

Elyas said Harun, 55, died in the arms of his wife and children, and his body was now at the Taiping Hospital for a post-mortem.

"His body will be brought tonight to his home at No 35, Jalan Perdana 5/3, Taman Pandan Perdana here," he said.

However, Elyas could not confirm if Harun's body would be buried tonight or tomorrow.

Harun, whose real name was Haron Aminar Rashid Salim, was the son of 50s actor, Salim Bachik and first became known through the drama series 'Rumah Kedai' which was screened in the early 90s.

In his lifetime, Harun was president of Seniman in 2010/2011 and his films included 'Man Laksa', 'Baik Punya Cilok', and 'Apa Kata Hati'.

In PARIT BUNTAR, Harun's son, Hakeem Sufi Alrashid, 14, said he had accompanied his father to the restroom where the latter gasped for breath before collapsing.

Harun was with his two children and wife at the Petronas petrol station, Gunung Semanggol R&R area along the North-South Highway heading south.

"I was with my sister, Siti Azirah Sofia, 12, mother Suriati Mohd Nor and father, returning to Kuala Lumpur from a relative's wedding reception in Penang.

"When we were in Penang, my father was his normal self and he was not sick. In the car, he wasn't also complaining about anything.

"We stopped for a while to refuel and rest. He also wanted to switch places so that my mother would drive. My father looked tired though and asked me to accompany him to the petrol station's restroom," he told reporters when met at Parit Buntar Hospital.

The elder child from his second marriage, Hakeem said Harun suffered from asthma.

Harun leaves behind two children from his marriage with Suriati as well as four from his first marriage.

Meanwhile, Kerian district police chief, Supt Omar Bakhtiar Yaacob said Harun was confirmed dead at about 4.20 pm and had an inhaler with him when he collapsed.

"Members of the public carried him to the surau next to the petrol station and realised that he had died," he said.

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