

Poem for Cheddi Jagan

*Is it really you that
way lying in that
casket?*

*With eyes closed,
and such a
peaceful smile on
your face...*

*The hands that
gave such a firm
handshake so still.*

*No, that cannot be
you.*

*That casket was
too small for you,
who ranged the
length and breadth
of this country to
be lying there
so quietly.*

*They say oaks grow
where
acorns full*

*But what happens
when the
oak falls?*

*No, that cannot be
you lying there,
because you're in*

*the hearts of the
silent stricken
people who had
gone to gaze at
your beloved face*

*With tears wrung
from their
very souls
You are in
our minds.*

*In our hopes in the
strength you gave
us, to carry on*

*because you did. We
will*

*always honour your
memory.*

*We will carry on for
you.*

*You had loved
this nation
so much*

*We can do
no less.*

**by Joe Ramroop
Henrietta
Housing Scheme
Essequibo Coast**