



Early Justice for Christmas

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF SPYROS PETER GOUDAS

Mr. Goodbar's



Hello everyone.

*I am one of the caregivers assigned to assist Spyros Peter Goudas since his misfortune as outlined in the book, *Miracles Still Do Happen*.*

I am from the Phillipines where I completed High School and University with a degree of Bachelor of elementary education.

Among other qualification, Food preparation, presentation, ingredients and nutrition facts were the part of my studies.

Obviously, many of you have read Mr. Goudas' wonderful book with the title

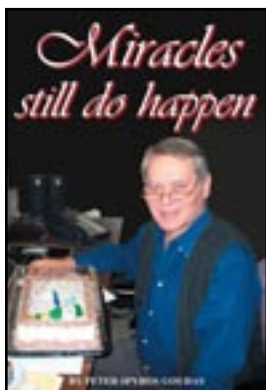
(Miracles Still Do Happen).

What an inspirational book and wonderful ending where Mr. Goudas "Thanks the Lord that keeps him in a good shape that he is at this stage of his life."

Since this booklet has been published by the thousands in many different languages and distributed at many associations, hospitals and churches, it has become an inspiration to many and the general idea is that Mr. Goudas is running and still kicking around.

This may have been the case for a little while.

Of course, that was then, but things have changed since



and he had his first operation on his spinal cord with some success in January, 2008.

Although things went smooth for quite sometime, in the middle of 2009, another severe attack caused him to inherit the same pain as



before to the point that another operation would be probably unavoidable.

The fact is, a second operation in the Spinal Cord can go either way. Therefore. the decision to have this operation has been delayed until he makes up his mind.

Nevertheless, he does not drive, and as we all know, he is a certified workaholic and never sleeps.

He hired me to look after him, to ensure that he eats proper food, takes his medicine on time, and get some rest.

This was a major undertaking.

Since he is in the food business, everybody thinks that he eats all day long. However, I am close to him and I can tell you sometimes

he does not eat for a day or two.

Who knows, maybe he does not have any appetite.

Even if he decided to eat, he will ask me for things like Chinese style fried noodles , or fu-fu Nigerian style, since he writes books and recipes from every part of the world.

So here I am, having to go through his recipes books or the Goudas website, Recipe Section, try to collect the information and make it to the best of my ability.

As part of his business, he deals with many different countries with different time zones; therefore, he is always on the go, either day or night communicating with the suppliers, factory owners, Canadian embassies around the world arranging passports for potential suppliers who will visit him, among his other duties mentioned in his biography The Immigrant.

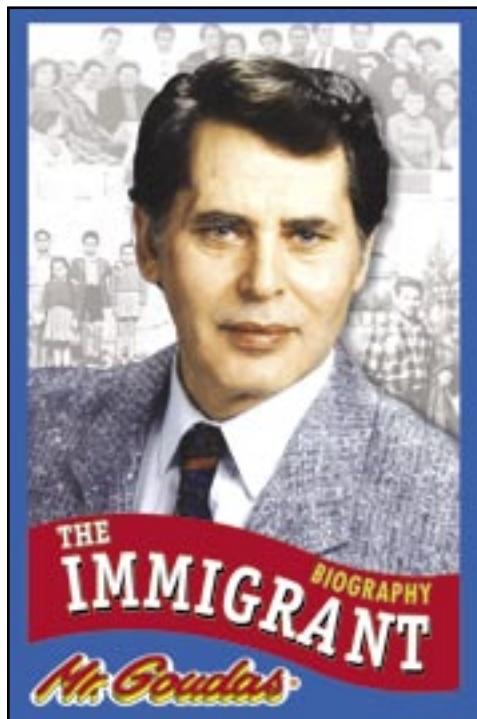
In a few words, he is like a human machine with never a dull moment.

Obviously when the pain attacks, he is crabbier and more miserable than usual and it make him upset, since he avoids taking painkillers.

We all know his dog “Koukla” and that she was always next to him, so imagine me the same as Koukla only the name is changed.



My mission is to look after his health and what is best for him. I have utilized most of my idle time in translation of his recipes



and his biography in Philippine language.

Many people think to translate a text format is to simply make a translation request to the computer. However, I can assure you that there is no possible way that could have an automatic translation and will be correct.

First you have to understand the meaning of the sentences and most of all you have to understand the person himself to be able to cope with the needs.

I had to focus on not only his spine and his legs, for which I attended a special course, but I also had to use my university qualifications to understand his mind.

My job is not to ask questions or give opinions; however, since his office is full of pictures in frames,



during one of his conversations somewhere with somebody in South Asia, I was looking at a newspaper article that was framed on the wall.

I was looking for the longest period of time trying to digest the headlines that claimed that Mr. Goudas was charged with fraud. How is possible a newspaper can be framed in his office with this context?

With my curiosity full aroused, I had a desire for some explanation. But as I stated above, my business is not to ask, and since my eyes were focused on the newspaper, when Mr. Goudas finished his phone conversation he stood up and with the assistance of his cane, came close to me, only to lift up his hand try to close my mouth which was wide open in disbelief from things that I had read.

He then asked me to prepare a Greek Coffee for him, a tea for me and revealed the following story. Back in the beginning of the new millennium, a particular big chain store buyer asked Mr. Goudas to obtain Arabian products for their stores. Since the Goudas Company had the international section within the supermarkets, they did not want many suppliers at the back of there stores to avoid causing congestion

from too many trucks.

The company who had Arabian foods, Rex International, was recommended by a chain store buyer to deliver the different food items to the Goudas Foods distribution center and among the other nationalities food, Goudas was responsible for distribution to the chain stores.

Things went smoothly and certain stores were able to get Arabian food such as tahina pomegram syrup, rose water, hummos, etc.

Apparently, at one point in time, Rex International Company did not pay their suppliers, resulting in the police laying charges against them.

The police also laid charges against all the companies that had purchased items from Rex International.

Unfortunately, Goudas Foods was one of the companies that had purchased and PAID for five hundred and fifty dollars worth of food products.

Although the amount is very small, the police had laid charges against Mr. Goudas.

The matter was handled very poorly not by the police department, but by a particular police officer.

When the news arrived at different media and newspapers, none of the editors wanted to publish news such as Mr. Goudas committing a fraud for \$550.00 (five hundred and fifty dollars).

However, one particular newspaper The Caribbean Camera published a

negative article on the front page by Gerald V. Paul with the title "Mr. Goudas on Fraud Charges".



read the article battle with cancer and recognized the reporter's name and brought it to his attention.

At that time, Bernadette, the lady who has spent many lifetimes according to her, as part of the research into Mr. Goudas' life, wrote an article to the editor of the newspaper about the journalist Gerald V. Paul, and since she knew the story very well she sent the letter to the Editor of The Caribbean Camera, which is self-explanatory:

*TO: Raynier Maharaj
Editor of The Caribbean Camera
Jan. 19, 2006.*

The judicial process continued until the 13th of December of the same year (2000).

Thankfully, and rightfully, Mr. Goudas was vindicated of all charges.

At that time, many newspapers wrote very favorable articles about Mr. Goudas, a couple of them you will read later on in this book.

Mr. Goudas further related to me that there was an article published in the Caribbean Camera about this particular reporter's battle with cancer.

He continued by saying that Bernadette, one of his assistants

The caption "My Battle with Cancer" caused me to take a second look at your publication of January 5 2006 and I read the three (3) "articles" with respect to your Through Our Eyes journalist, Gerald Paul.

By the way, you neglected to include his initial "V" which made him more official sounding.

I would like to outline the reason I am writing this letter to you.

I was hired to type the biography of the man whom I believe is one of the greatest men in Canada today, (in my humble opinion) and I also believe that when this biography is finally published my opinion may become a consensus.

Since I have spent several lifetimes in his office collecting material, as part of the research into his life, I had to read many articles, publications, radio programs and interviews about him.



One of the articles that struck my interest and curiosity was the negative one written by

Gerald V. Paul.

This article is not hidden from view but is framed and posted on the wall in his office as a reminder of ignorance, negligence and self-centered, publicity-seeking journalism.

It is a very unmeritorious attack.

So as I scanned the front page of your publication, I realized it was the very same journalist who penned the aforementioned article.

Now then, it is 1:30 a.m., and it is not unusual to be writing something at this late/early hour and because what I am going to say it is very important.

I would like you to focus your complete attention on the meaning of this letter instead of the words, which I am using.

Needless to say, I have read over five hundred articles, publications, etc., which all been very favourably written about the life and the mission of the man who has basically spent his whole life in the innovation and creation of the most wonderful products the world has ever known.

In addition to that, the contribution to each and every ethnic community in Canada is unimaginable.

A small example, for instance, he has been supporting the food requirements for many senior citizens' organizations on a daily, year-round basis, for many years.

He also provides support to endless

lists of churches, associations and non-profit organizations and individuals in need.

You may easily view some of this information on the website under Letters of Appreciation. (All of which may be verified.)

Also in the Events Section on the very same website, on January 19, 2005, a very popular Sri Lankan newspaper published an article (obviously in Sri Lankan dialect, which you can have easily translated) validating this man's generosity and philanthropy for the Tsunami disaster in there time of need.

So then, on July 6, 2000, Gerald V. Paul published an article on the front page, in bold type indicating that Mr. Goudas is "on fraud charges", finding himself "in a pickle".

With proper investigation and fact-finding, like any professional journalist should undertake in publishing a story of such magnitude, he should have determined that this gentleman (Mr. Goudas) purchased and paid for \$550 worth of food products with proper documentation, i.e. purchase invoice and receipt for payment.

Under further investigation he would have realized the story should have focused on Rex International not on the individual whom he slandered.

For example, should The Caribbean Camera newspaper purchase and pay for ink-jets from a company, and then discover that this company was under investigation, would

editor-in-chief, Raynier Marajah, find himself charged with fraud and in a pickle? In addition, why did this newspaper not publish the fact, like many other newspapers did, that on December 13th, of same year, Mr. Justice Shilton, presiding Judge at the Newmarket courthouse withdrew all charges against Mr. Peter Spyros Goudas, meaning that the charges should never have been laid in the first place!

The impact of the negative article written by Gerald V. Paul fell into the hands of the competitors who provided copies to embassies around the world including banks and other financial institutions, resulting in a disastrous six-month financial period to the man who has done so much for me, for you, and for every other nationality in Canada.

Now, then, I believe that Gerald V. Paul at this critical time in his life should reflect and consider focusing on how to mend the wounds he inflicted upon the head of Goudas Foods and others within the organization..

I believe an apology or retraction is warranted, as God is our witness.

Regards, Bernadette.

The sad part of the whole situation is that the newspaper did not react and respond accordingly and when I asked Mr. Goudas what he thought about the whole thing he told me that all sins will be paid for, in this life. Obviously the above experience

made me spend a lot of time reading different magazines, and I was able to dig out of the library files two further articles written about this incident.

One was in the Indo Caribbean World, the famous Caribbean newspapers in Canada, and the other in The Share Newspaper, one of the most popular ethnic newspapers in this country. The exact texts of the articles are as follows:

INDO CARIBBEAN WORLD,



Volume 18, December 20, 2000
Toronto: Mr. Justice Shilton, presiding Judge at the Newmarket courthouse, on December 13, 2000 **withdrew** all charges against Mr. Peter Goudas, head of the giant Goudas Food organization. The decision was greeted with much anticipation by the staff of the Goudas enterprise as well as by its multitude of concerned suppliers and customers.

Mr. Goudas himself was ostensibly relieved from what he describes as “months of stress which are now behind me.” Speaking to Indo Caribbean World,

Mr. Goudas says he feels vindicated as he has “always maintained his innocence from the very inception of these proceedings.”

Gleefully, he says that the court’s decision has confirmed his faith in the Canadian judicial system.

The tale of the birth and growth of the Goudas Empire is a story that books are made of.

He started out as a penniless immigrant in Toronto in 1967 and became a pioneer in making ethnic foods available to the multicultural communities in this country.

Today, Goudas is a household name in the food industry with hundreds of items on the shelves of grocery stores. And with this “The Man on the Can” has become a familiar face to many.

Mr. Goudas is a strong supporter of communities organizations and charitable initiatives. In 1993 he won the coveted “Entrepreneur of the Year Award:.”

[SHARE](#)

Canada’s Largest Ethnic Newspaper, Volume 23, No. 38, December 21, 2000

THE MAN FOR ALL SEASONINGS VINDICATED

Entrepreneur Peter Spyros Goudas, the man behind the well known “Mr. Goudas” food label, received

An Early Christmas Gift

*on December 13 with the news that all charges filed against him earlier this year have been **withdrawn**.*

Mr. Justice Shilton, presiding judge in Newmarket, withdrew the charges of conspiracy to commit fraud, theft and possession of stolen property at the request of the Crown Attorney.

Mr. Goudas said he was supported by many friends, clients and business associates who, sharing his good news, sent letters, faxes and other messages of congratulations following the decision.

Mr Goudas had said all along he had no doubt the charges would have been dropped since he was “absolutely innocent”.

He had also expressed faith in the Canadian justice system.

Mr Goudas admitted that despite the positive outcome the months leading up to the decision had been very stressful, and said he was relieved that it is now all behind him.

He said that the tremendous support he received from his loyal employees, customers, stores as well as suppliers, helped carry him through the ordeal.



He said that they conveyed to him their understanding that he is a person with a high degree of integrity and honesty.

“I am gratified that their confidence in me has been fully justified by the court’s decision to withdraw the charges and fully vindicate me,” he added.

He acknowledged, however, that he was saddened by the actions of some of his competitors who used the opportunity to attempt “to smear his good name and exaggerate the situation.”

“I believe in strong competition,” he said, “but in a healthy and honest environment.”

“Mr. Goudas” is a household name in foods across Canada.

He is the first person in this country to package food with a cultural focus on the Caribbean.

Over the years his product line has expanded to more than 500 items from all over the world.

Goudas said he is proud of his “Mr. Goudas” brand, noting that it can be seen in every national and regional chain store, and smaller independent neighbourhood stores.

Those who favour Caribbean foods have come to rely on his brand name for food of the highest quality, he adds proudly.

Peter Spyros Goudas’ rise to such a prominent position in marketing of ethnic foods is a Canadian success story.

He recalls that as a penniless immigrant in Canada in 1967 from Greece, his homeland, he suffered a number of hardships and setbacks.

Among his early experiences he once slept on benches at Nathan Phillips Square.

But he persevered in his dream to see others newly arrived in Canada like himself have access to the foods they were accustomed to in their home countries.

As a mark of his success, in 1993 he was presented with the prestigious “Entrepreneur of the Year Award”, given to business people with strong qualities in the area of innovation, impact on industry and contribution to society.

He is well known to all major ethnic groups, both those new to Canada and those who count themselves as foundation groups, through his involvement in many educational, cultural and charitable events and his strong support of homes for seniors.

He has also been the subject of a number of marketing studies by educational groups.

After reading all this, I felt overwhelmed. People can be so callous, hurtful and self seeking. It became very apparent how deeply this episode affected him.

Recalling this incident seemed to take him into another state of mind.

Sitting watching him, I felt sad, knowing how hard he has worked and how much physical pain he

*was in at the moment.
He lifted Koukla, his French Poodle,
into his arms, and slowly patted her
head, and said to me:*

*“You know, physical pain is one
thing, emotional pain is another!*

*Even an extremely hurtful,
ungrounded personal attack on
my reputation has not provoked
lasting unforgiveness.*

*There have been too many grateful
people, business associates and
employees who are a constant
source of joy to me.*

*People who trample on the truth
will have to answer sooner or later
(and should not be given a
second thought).*

*We are all called to erase any
resentment or unforgiveness
from our hearts thus making the
world a far, far better place.”*

*He further stated that his good
friend, Dr. Joseph McKenna advised
him that an initial premise of stoical
philosophy is that “the perpetrator
of an injustice does more harm to
himself than to his victim and that*



*the only way harm can result from
injustice is if the person who suffers
the wrong allows the ongoing
memory of the event to fester
and change his heart and soul.*

*Nothing from unprincipled attackers
should disturb one’s serenity.”*

*Deeply focussed, Mr. Goudas
further stated that this story, as
simple as it appears, panicked
bankers into recalling loans,
suppliers delayed shipments and
redirected existing shipments
en route to Goudas back to the
countries or ports of origin.*

*In addition, supermarkets and
chain stores removed products from
their data bases, etc., etc.*

*This sequence of events caused
chaos and negativity for a long
period of time in this business which
I had spent a lifetime in achieving.*

*When I see the appreciation letters
framed around his office from
various organizations, churches,
associations, and thank you
letters from disaster relief
organizations, etc., etc.*

*I know that this article printed
on the front page did a very
great and grave injustice to
Mr. Peter Spyros Goudas,
my employer.*

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