Dr. Nutakki Gouri Sankara Rao (N.G.S. Rao), 82, of Lake Mary, Florida died Thursday, January 14, in Hyderabad, India. In 1960, Dr. Rao was married to Akkamamba Devi Yalamarthi in India, and subsequently emigrated to the United States. After earning a Masters of Science at St. Louis College of Pharmacy in 1962, Dr. Rao moved to Fargo where he earned a PhD in Pharmacy and in Chemistry from North Dakota State University in 1966.

Dr. Rao served as a professor in NDSU's Pharmacology and Toxicology departments from 1966 to 1993, during which time he served as the North Dakota State Toxicologist and chair of the Department of Toxicology at NDSU from 1973 to 1993.

In 1994, Dr. Rao moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he served as the chair of New Mexico's Toxicology Bureau until his retirement in 2000. Dr. Rao spent his retirement enjoying time with family and friends in Lake Mary, Florida, Minneapolis, Minnesota and Hyderabad, India, amongst other locations.

Dr. Rao is survived by his wife, Devi; son Sinu (Mona) Nutakki of Lake Mary, Florida; daughter Swati (Jay) Cerise of Edina, Minnesota; son Ranga Nutakki of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and 4 loving grandchildren, Nico and Divya Cerise of Edina, Minnesota, and Mira and Aman Nutakki of Lake Mary, Florida.