

'Special op' tracks down long lost classmates for Loyola reunion

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Summary: This is probably why the folks behind the reunion of the Economics batch of 1976, Loyola College had to request a 'special op' be carried out to track down their classmates. The Loyola College Economics Batch of '76 reunion will take place on October 8. Members of the alumni committee, who have diligently tracked down every one of their 76 classmates, did so over a span of two years. Like M Ganesan from Tirupattur who was tracked by his classmates all the way down to his new address and the postmaster in the main office. With a little convincing, this enabled them to collect the number of the specific postman who frequented Ganesan's street.

CHENNAI: Not enough 60-year-olds are on Facebook. This is probably why the folks behind the reunion of the Economics batch of 1976, Loyola College had to request a 'special op' be carried out to track down their classmates. Members of the alumni committee, who have diligently tracked down every one of their 76 classmates, did so over a span of two years. Gerald Arputhasamy, one of the alumni and co-ordinator of the event over the weekend, recalled, "We have called offices, wives, postmen, even rang up the United Nations once to reach a classmate of our who works with the World Trade Organisation!" Sadly what they found was that 40 years after college graduation, nine classmates were deceased and several others – spread all across from Sowcarpet to Singapore – were unreachable. That's when Gerald requested classmate and friend, retired Commissioner of Police T Rajendran to help out.

And as you can imagine, returning home from work to find out that cops had come knocking, alarmed more than one senior gent in the process. "We had quite a few people

scared, before they called back and I got to say: It's me machan," remembers Rajendran with a laugh. In this day and age, the concept of 'unreachable' is rather alien for most, but this team did not have it that easy. Like M Ganesan from Tirupattur who was tracked by his classmates all the way down to his new address and the postmaster in the main office.
