



In Loving Memory



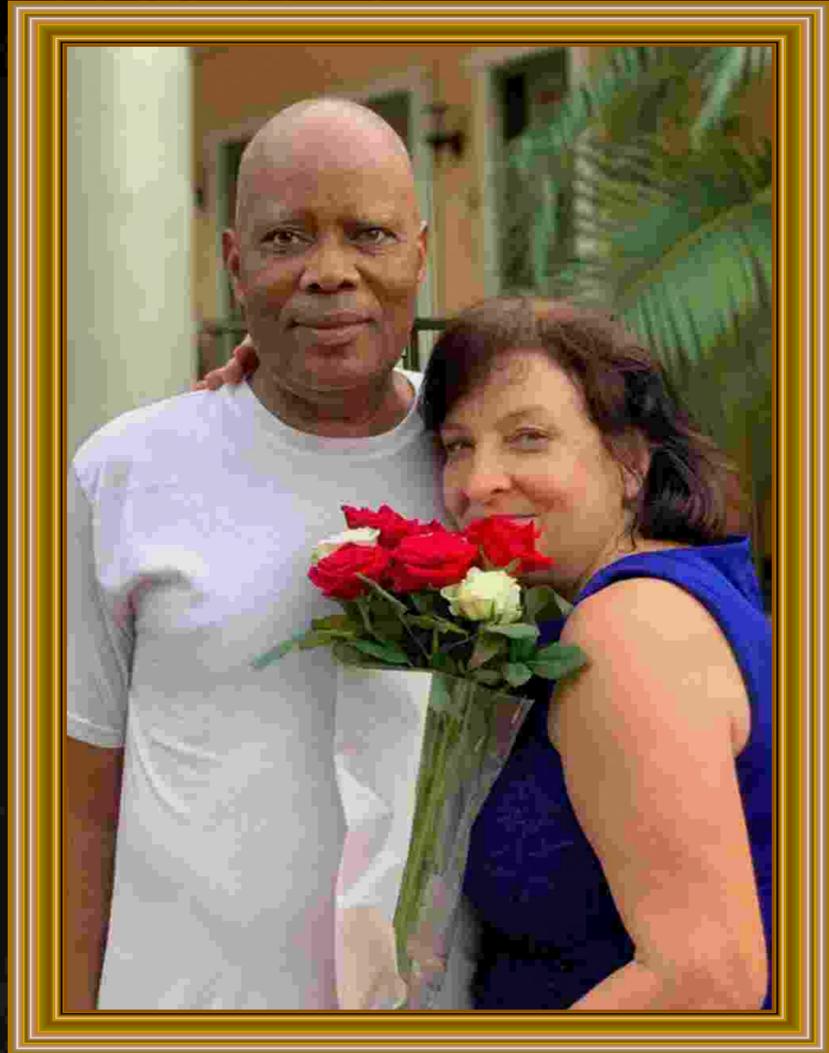
Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni

19th March, 1960 – 9th March, 2026

Lena Awuni

11th March 1962 – 9th March 2026





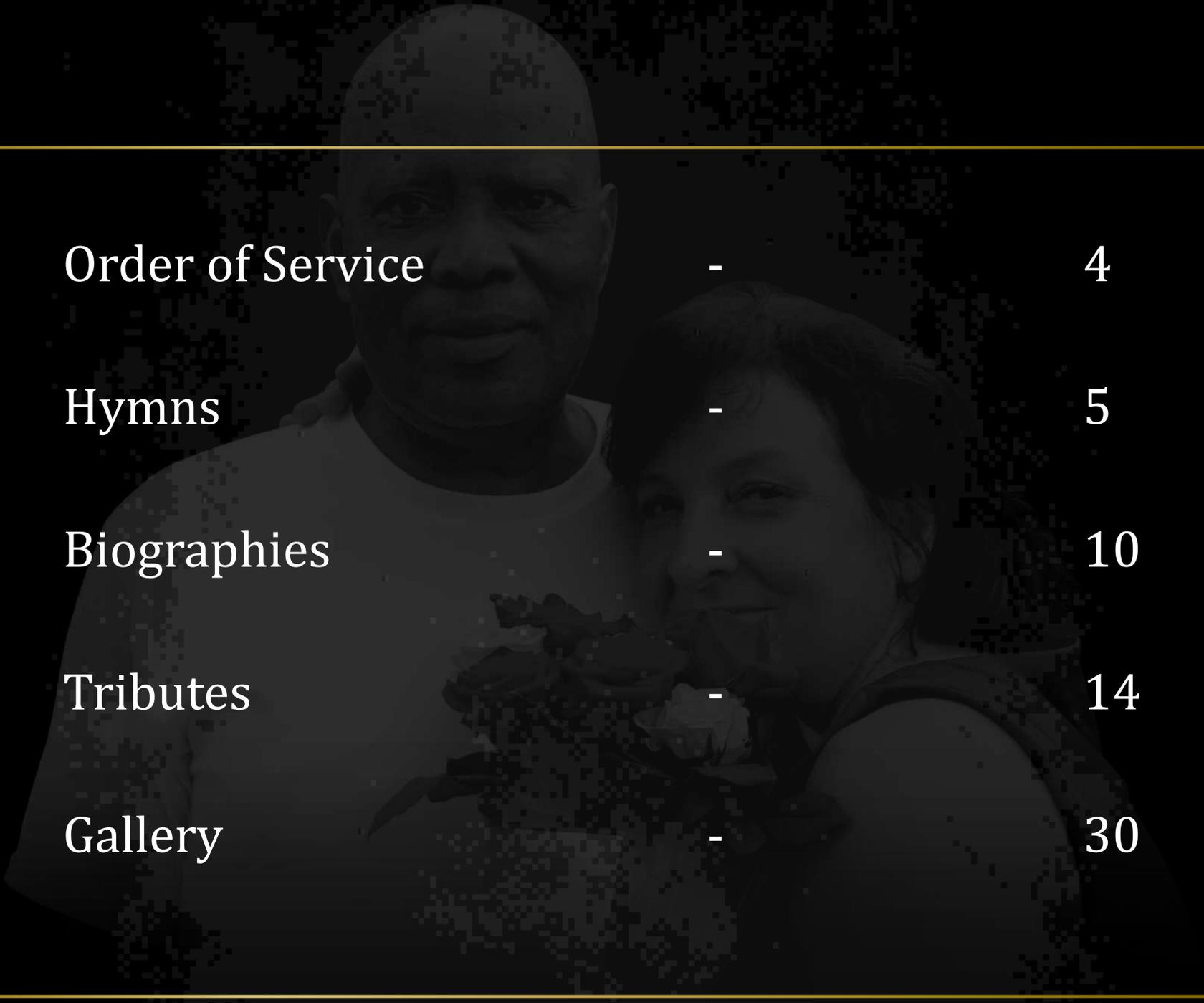
“

”

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

TABLE OF CONTENTS



| | | |
|------------------|---|----|
| Order of Service | - | 4 |
| Hymns | - | 5 |
| Biographies | - | 10 |
| Tributes | - | 14 |
| Gallery | - | 30 |

ORDER OF SERVICE

OFFICIATING MINISTERS

Very Rev Dr. Adzika Agbemenya Vicent

Rev Banister Tay

Rev James Okine

PART 1: PRE-MEMORIAL SERVICE

PROCESSION

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---------|
| OPENING HYMN | - | MHB 50 |
| HYMNS/TRIBUTES | - | MHB 80 |
| FILING PAST HYMNS | - | MHB 607 |
| COVERING OF CASKET | - | MHB 608 |
| SONGS | - | CHOIR |

PART 2: MEMORIAL SERVICE

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------|---|--|
| SENTENCES | | OFFERTORY | - | CHOIR |
| HYMN | - | MHB 651 | | MHB 369 |
| PRAYERS | | COMMEMORATION & COMMENDATION | | |
| HYMNS | - | MHB 679 | | CONCLUDING PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER |
| BIOGRAPHY | | ANNOUNCEMENTS | | |
| TRIBUTES | | VOTE OF THANKS | | |
| SCRIPTURE READING | | CLOSING HYMN | - | MHB 80 |
| HYMN | | BENEDICTION | | |
| SERMON | | RECESSION | | |
| APOSTLE'S CREED | | | | |

PART 3: GRAVESIDE SERVICE

PRIVATE BURIAL



HYMNS

MHB 50:
**The Lord's My Shepherd,
I'll Not Want**

↔

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

MHB 80:
**Thee Will I Praise
with All My Heart**

↔

Thee will I praise with all my heart,
And tell mankind how good thou art,
How marvelous thy works of grace;
Thy name I will in songs record,
And joy and glory in my Lord,
Extolled above all thanks and praise.

The Lord will save his people here;
In times of need their Help is near,
To all by sin and hell oppressed;
And they that know thy name will trust
In thee, who to thy promise just
Hast never left a soul distressed.

The Lord is by his judgments known;
He helps his poor afflicted one,
His sorrows all he bears in mind;
The mourner shall not always weep,
Who sows in tears in joy shall reap,
With grief who seeks with joy shall find.

A helpless soul that looks to thee
Is sure at last thy face to see,
And all thy goodness to partake;
The sinner who for thee doth grieve,
And longs, and labours to believe,
Thou never, never wilt forsake.

MHB 607:
O God of Bethel,
by Whose Hand

—
O God of Bethel, by whose hand
Thy people still are fed;
Who through this weary pilgrimage
Hast all our fathers led.

Our vows, our prayers, we now present
Before Thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God
Of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life
Our wandering footsteps guide;
Give us each day our daily bread,
And raiment fit provide.

O spread Thy covering wings around,
Till all our wanderings cease,
And at our Father's loved abode
Our souls arrive in peace.
Such blessings from Thy gracious hand
Our humble prayers implore;
And Thou shalt be our chosen God,
And portion evermore.

MHB 608:
Captain of Israel's Host,
and Guide

—
Captain of Israel's host, and Guide
Of all who seek the land above,
Beneath Thy shadow we abide,
The cloud of Thy protecting love;
Our strength, Thy grace; our rule, Thy Word;

Our end, the glory of the Lord.
By Thine unerring Spirit led,
We shall not in the desert stray;
The light of life around us shed,
By night and day our constant stay;
In Thee we trust, and we rejoice;
Thy providence our only choice.

MHB 369: Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

(Refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

(Refrain)

MHB 651: Hark! Hark, My Soul! Angelic Songs Are Swelling

Hark! hark, my soul! angelic songs are swelling
O'er earth's green fields and ocean's wave-beat shore;
How sweet the truth those blessed strains are telling
Of that new life when sin shall be no more.

Refrain:

Angels of Jesus, Angels of light,
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night.
Onward we go, for still we hear them singing:
"Come, weary souls, for Jesus bids you come;"
And through the dark, its echoes sweetly ringing,
The music of the gospel leads us home.

Refrain:

Angels of Jesus, Angels of light,
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night.
Far, far away, like bells at evening pealing,
The voice of Jesus sounds o'er land and sea,
And laden souls by thousands meekly stealing,
Kind Shepherd, turn their weary steps to Thee.

Refrain:

Angels of Jesus, Angels of light,
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night.
Angels, sing on, your faithful watches keeping;
Sing us sweet fragments of the songs above,
Till morning's joy shall end the night of weeping,
And life's long shadows break in cloudless love.

Refrain:

Angels of Jesus, Angels of light,
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night.

MHB 679:
Pleasant Are Thy Courts Above



Pleasant are Thy courts above
In the land of light and love;
Pleasant are Thy courts below
In this land of sin and woe.
O my spirit longs and faints
For the converse of Thy saints,
For the brightness of Thy face,
For Thy fullness, God of grace.
Happy birds that sing and fly
Round Thy altars, O Most High;
Happier souls that find a rest
In a heavenly Father's breast!
Like the wandering dove that found
No repose on earth around,
They can to their ark repair
And enjoy it ever there.

Happy souls, their praises flow
Even in this vale of woe;
Waters in the desert rise,
Manna feeds them from the skies;
On they go from strength to strength
Till they reach Thy throne at length,
At Thy feet adoring fall,
Who hast led them safe through all.

Lord, be mine this prize to win;
Guide me through a world of sin,
Keep me by Thy saving grace,
Give me at Thy side a place.
Sun and shield alike Thou art;
Guide and guard my erring heart.
Grace and glory flow from Thee;
Shower, O shower them, Lord, on me

BIOGRAPHY

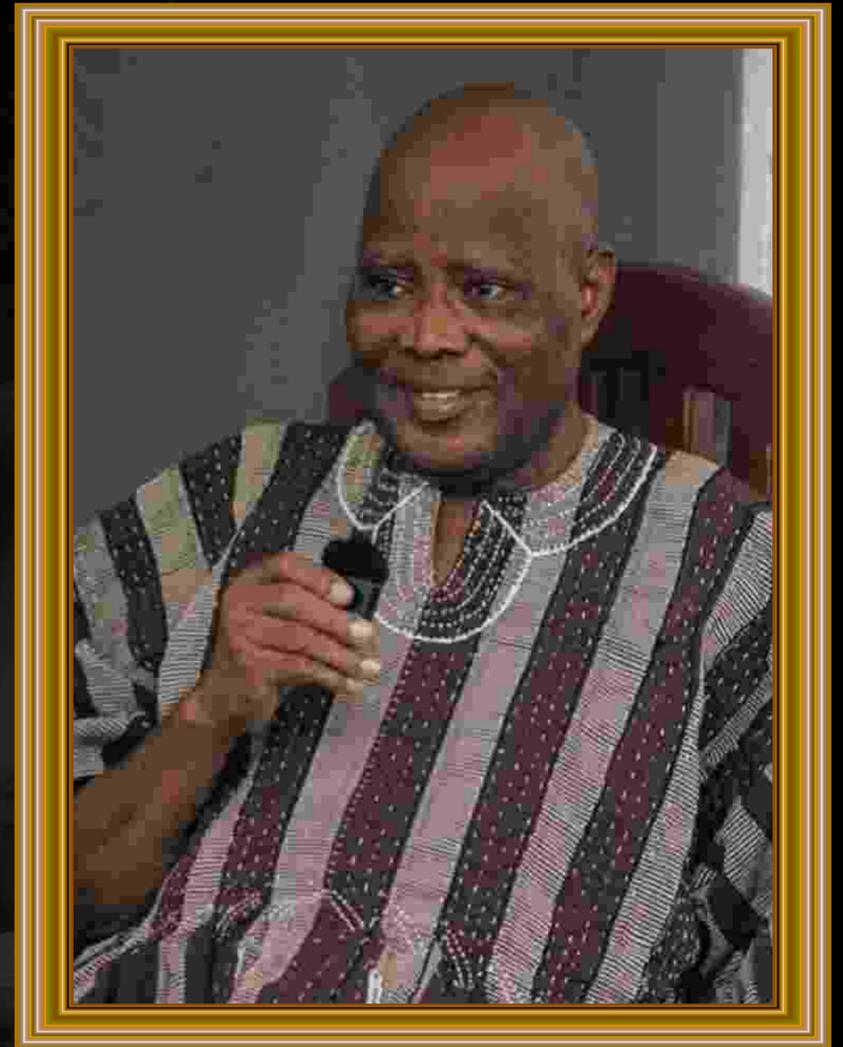
Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni

19th March, 1960 – 9th March, 2026

Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni was a distinguished Ghanaian veterinary scientist, international laboratory expert, and a devoted family man whose life was defined by excellence, resilience, and service.

He was born in 1960 in Yorogo, a village near Bolgatanga in the Upper East Region of Ghana, to Mr. Awuni Anangina and Madam Anna Azeyuure. As the firstborn of three children, he grew up with a strong sense of responsibility and leadership.

Dr. Awuni began his early education at Yorogo Primary School and continued to Gowrie Middle School before gaining admission to Bawku Secondary School, where he obtained both his O' Level and A' Level certificates after seven years of study.



In 1983, after completing his A' Levels, he travelled to Accra with the intention of joining the Ghana Army as an officer. However, during the recruitment process, an officer who reviewed his academic results strongly encouraged him to pursue higher education instead. Though initially reluctant, this pivotal moment changed the course of his life.

That same year, Ghana had limited scholarship opportunities for veterinary medicine in the then USSR (Ukraine). Determined and focused, he returned to Bolgatanga to sit for a highly competitive national examination and interview—and emerged as the top candidate. This achievement earned him the opportunity to study in Ukraine, where he pursued veterinary medicine and distinguished himself academically, even setting a record with his thesis work that remained unmatched.

It was during his time in Ukraine, in 1987–1988, that he met Lena Arsiutina, a kind, strong, and hardworking young woman whose presence would forever change the course of his life. What began as a meeting of two people far from home blossomed into a deep and enduring love, built on mutual respect, sacrifice, and unwavering support for one another. Together, they found not only companionship but a sense of home in each other. They married and, in 1989, welcomed their first daughter, Linda, a moment that filled his life with profound joy and purpose. In 1992, Lena made the courageous decision to move permanently to Ghana with their daughter to join him, and together they continued to build a life rooted in love, resilience, and family. In May 1998, their union was further blessed with the birth of their second daughter, Sabrina, completing the family he cherished so deeply.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni

19th March, 1960 – 9th March, 2026

Dr. Awuni went on to build an extraordinary professional career. He obtained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Master of Veterinary Science degrees from the Ukrainian Agricultural Academy in Kiev. He further earned a Master of Science in Tropical Veterinary Science from the University of Edinburgh and specialized in viral vaccine production at the University of Queensland.

Throughout his career, he contributed significantly to the diagnosis, surveillance, and control of major animal diseases, including avian influenza and other transboundary diseases. He was instrumental in early outbreak detection and national response efforts, helping to protect both animal and public health.

Dr. Awuni was also a passionate teacher and mentor. He served as a part-time lecturer at the University of Ghana and the University of Cape Coast, where he trained and inspired many veterinary professionals. Internationally, he worked as a consultant and trainer, supporting laboratory development and disease control efforts across several African countries.

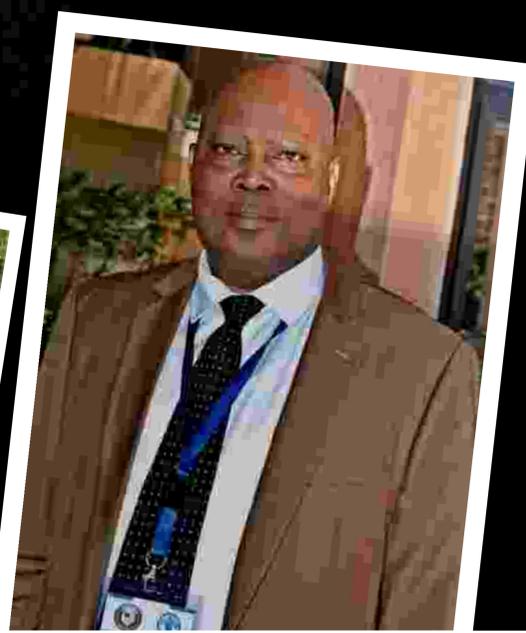
He was a prolific researcher, contributing to numerous scientific publications and advancing knowledge in veterinary virology, poultry health, and livestock production. He also played a key role in the establishment and strengthening of modern veterinary laboratories in Ghana.

At the Accra Veterinary Laboratory in Labone, he was known as an affable, humble, and highly dedicated professional. He distinguished himself through his work and even developed a drug for the treatment of coccidiosis in poultry, contributing directly to improved animal health and farming outcomes.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Dr. Awuni was a loving father, husband, and grandfather. He was known for his humility, wisdom, warmth, and quiet strength. His life was a testament to perseverance, purpose, and impact.

Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni's legacy lives on through his contributions to science, his service to humanity, and the family he cherished deeply.

May his soul rest in perfect peace.



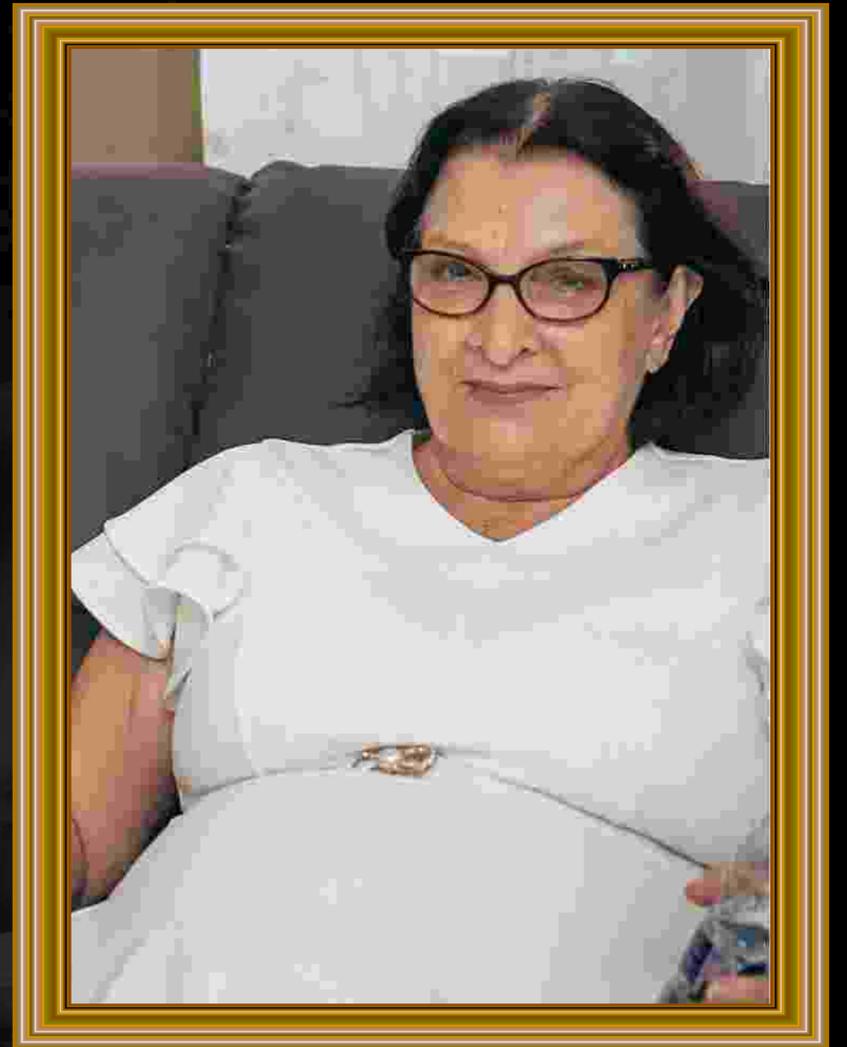
BIOGRAPHY

Lena Awuni (née Arsyutina)

11th March 1962 – 9th March 2026

Lena Awuni was born on March 11, 1962, in the village of Selyshche in the Koziatyn District of the Vinnytsia Region, Ukraine. She was the sixth child of Viktoriya Lukyanivna and Dmytro Nikodymovych Arsiutin. Raised in a close-knit rural family, Lena's early life was grounded in strong values of resilience, humility, and hard work.

She began her education at Selyshche Primary School in 1969 and later continued at Bilopillia Secondary School, completing her studies in 1977.



After finishing school, she moved to Kyiv in search of better opportunities. There, she enrolled in a vocational technical college, where she trained as a lathe operator. In 1981, she graduated and began working at the "Bolshevik" factory in Kyiv, where she built a reputation as a disciplined and dedicated worker.

In 1987–1988, Lena met Joseph Awuni, who was studying veterinary medicine at the Ukrainian Agricultural Academy. Their meeting marked the beginning of a lifelong partnership built on love and commitment. They got married and, in 1989, welcomed their first daughter, Linda.

In 1992, Lena made the life-changing decision to move permanently to Ghana with her daughter to join her husband, beginning a new chapter of her life with courage, strength, and unwavering dedication to her family.

Upon settling in Ghana, Lena began working as a bar attendant at Aquarius in Nyaniba, Osu, and later moved to Bus Stop in Asylum Down. In May 1998, she welcomed her second daughter, Sabrina. Shortly after, she resumed work briefly before continuing her journey at the Ice Drop Water Factory in Amrahia.

BIOGRAPHY

Lena Awuni (née Arsyutina)

11th March 1962 – 9th March 2026

Lena was widely known and remembered for her exceptional hospitality. Anyone who visited her home was always warmly welcomed, well fed, and made to feel comfortable and cared for. Her home was a place of love, generosity, and togetherness.

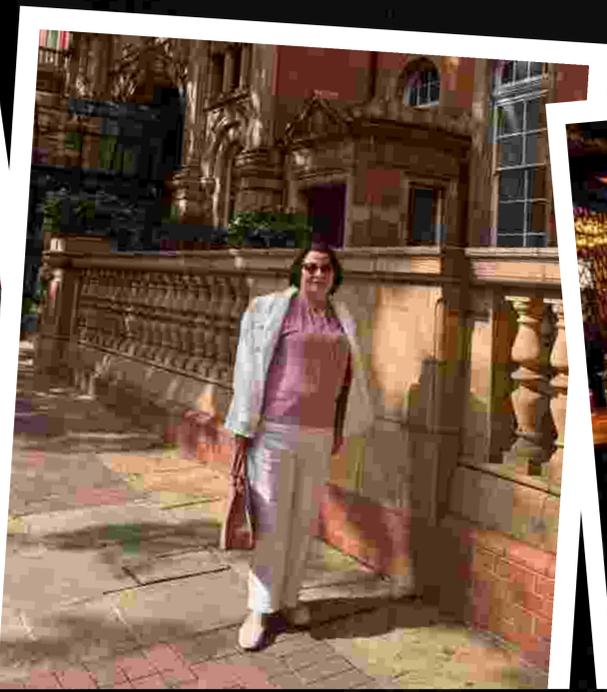
She also had a deep love for animals, especially her beloved dog, Rider, who was her loyal companion for about nine years, as well as the many cats she cared for over the years.

In her later years, Lena embodied true selflessness and devotion. She stood faithfully by her husband's side through his illness, accompanying him to hospital visits and dialysis, and caring for him with unwavering love and strength until their passing.

Lena was a woman of quiet strength, resilience, and deep compassion. A devoted wife, loving mother, and caring grandmother, her life was defined by sacrifice, love, and unwavering commitment to her family.

Her journey—from a small village in Ukraine to building a life and home in Ghana—was one of courage, grace, and enduring love.

Forever loved. Forever remembered.



TRIBUTES

Tribute from Children – Linda Assibi Awuni



To My Beloved Mum and Dad

Mummy and Daddy,

There are no words that can truly capture what you both meant to me or the depth of the loss I now feel. You were my foundation, my safe place and the people who shaped the woman I have become.

You built a home filled with love, discipline, warmth and guidance. In that home, I learned the importance of kindness, education, integrity and perseverance. Every value I carry today was first taught to me by you.

Daddy, some of my most treasured childhood memories are the weekends I spent with you. You would take me along with you on your rounds, visiting homes, poultry farms and attending to people's pets. I followed you everywhere like your little assistant, proudly watching you work and learning from you. Those moments made me admire your dedication, your knowledge and the way you served others so selflessly.

I also remember following you around in Adenta when you were serving as an Assemblyman. I watched people come to our home, saw the respect they had for you and listened to conversations about leadership and service. That was where my love for politics began. I remember telling you as a little girl that one day I would run for Member of Parliament, especially knowing it had been your intention when Adenta became a constituency. When life did not allow you to pursue that path, I made a promise within myself that I would do it for you.

I am so grateful that you lived to see me chase that dream. You stood by me, went on campaign journeys with me and reconnected with your old political colleagues along the way. I knew how proud you were of me and that is a memory I will hold onto forever.

My favorite place in the world was simply sitting on your lap. In those moments, I felt safe, loved, and protected. You had a special way of calling me "Lynnn," stretching my name in a way that only you did. No one else has ever called me that, and it will forever remind me that I was your little girl.



TRIBUTES



You were deeply involved in my education and never stopped guiding me. Even when I was in secondary school at Aburi Girls, you would come on Saturdays to visit and sit with me to go through my schoolwork. Sometimes you even helped my friends understand their lessons. Education was something you believed in strongly and you made sure I understood its importance. I always loved sharing everything with you, my classes, my grades, and my progress. Even as an adult, that never changed. Until your very last days, I still shared my academic journey with you.

Watching you become a grandfather was one of the greatest joys of my life. You were so loving and patient with the children. During the COVID period, I watched you teach my firstborn daughter just as you once taught me. Seeing that same love, patience and wisdom passed down to another generation was something truly special.

We also shared so many simple but meaningful moments. I remember sitting together watching tennis, enjoying the matches side by side. And I will always smile remembering how I got you to start watching MasterChef Australia, something we ended up enjoying together.

Mummy, you were the heart and warmth of our home. Some of my sweetest childhood memories are of the mornings when you would take me and my sister to Labadi Beach, where you would relax and enjoy the sun while we played nearby. You made those simple moments feel so special.

You always had a way of showing your love in the little things. You would come home from work and always bring something for your daughters. No matter how small, it meant everything because it showed how much you were always thinking of us.

Tribute from Children – Linda Assibi Awuni

TRIBUTES

My love for cooking came from you. You loved to cook and feeding people brought you so much joy. No one ever came to our home and left without eating. Your kitchen was a place of warmth and generosity and your fruit cocktail juice will forever remain unforgettable.

Even as I grew older, your care for me never changed. You called me every single day to ask how I was, to check on the children, and just to talk. Those morning conversations meant so much to me. I will miss talking to you about everything and nothing at the same time.

You were also an incredible grandmother. I will never forget when I went into labor with my first child and was in so much pain. You looked at me and said how much you wished you could take the pain away from me. It meant the world to me that you were the first to hold my baby girl, Hayley, in your arms.

One of my most cherished memories with you was our mother-daughter trip to Senegal. We laughed, explored and spent such beautiful time together. You always said how much you enjoyed that trip and how you looked forward to doing another one with me once Daddy got better.

Your love for Daddy was something so pure and powerful. During the years he was ill, you never left his side. You cared for him with strength, patience and devotion every single day. Even in his final days, you would say how afraid you were of losing him and how you didn't know how you would live without him.

Your marriage was the true meaning of "in sickness and in health, till death do us part." And in the end, even in death, you went together, just as you lived your lives, side by side.

My heart aches every day since that Tuesday when I found you both. It is a pain I never imagined I would have to carry.

One of my favorite Bible verses has always been:

"All things work together for good for those who love the Lord." — Romans 8:28

Today I find myself asking how losing both of you at the same time could ever work for my good. But I pray to God every day to give me the strength to trust Him, to never doubt His word and to believe that even in this pain, He has a purpose.

My deepest comfort is the hope that you are both in a better place now, together, just as you have always been.

Thank you for being the most loving parents I could ever ask for. Thank you for the life you gave me, the lessons you taught me and the love you surrounded me with.

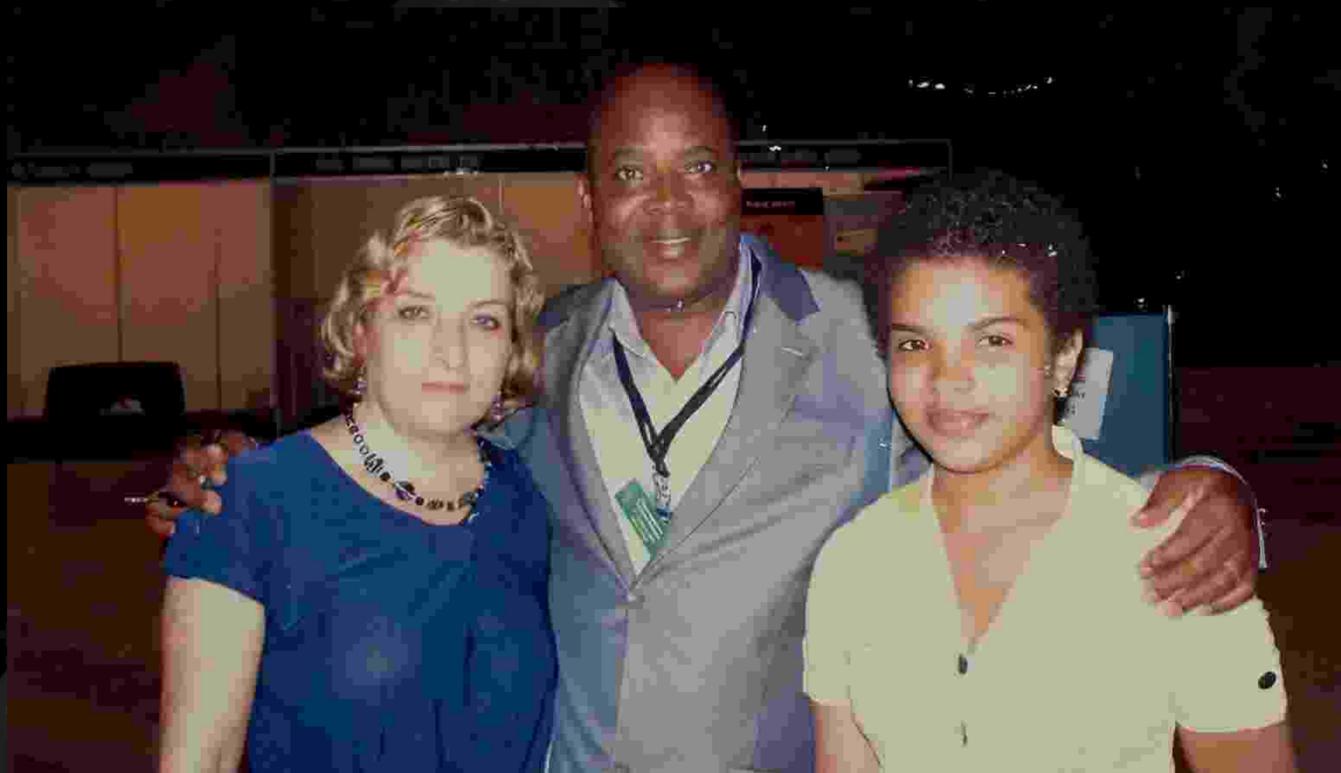
You will live forever in my heart.

Rest peacefully together.

With all my love,
Linda Assibi Awuni ("Lynnn")

TRIBUTES

Tribute from Children – Sabrina Lamie Awuni



A parent's love is once in a lifetime. I never truly understood the depth of that love until I became a mother myself.

Mama and Daddy, you will live in our hearts forever. Truly, "death comes like a thief in the night," because we never imagined we would lose you both this way. Life feels so unfair for taking you from us so suddenly, but I find comfort in believing that you are now together in paradise, resting peacefully side by side.

Your love, guidance, and the life you built for us will never be forgotten.

To Daddy

Daddy, you were a man people loved the moment they met you funny, intelligent, warm, and welcoming to everyone around you.

You always made sure your girls were protected and cared for. Anyone who knew you understood one thing clearly, no one could ever play with Dr. Awuni's girls.

You were my role model. Through you I learned the importance of discipline, hard work, and determination. You taught me to pursue excellence in everything I did.

I will forever cherish the memories we shared from watching Barbie and the 12 Dancing Princesses, The Jungle Book, and the many simple moments that meant so much.

You were always the first person I called whenever I achieved something. Nothing made me happier than hearing the pride in your voice.

Your little "Sabi" will always remember following you to work and listening to country music together in the car.

Your Princess Teni is here, Daddy. She will grow up hearing stories about the wonderful grandfather she had – a man who loved deeply and always put his family first.

To Mama

TRIBUTES



Mama, my superwoman, you were the strongest woman I knew. You went above and beyond to make sure your children and grandchildren were always happy.

Your hospitality was something everyone who visited your home will never forget. No one ever left your house hungry or thirsty. You made everyone feel welcomed, cared for, and loved.

The memories I have with you are ones I will cherish forever — from our days at Shangri-La, to the many places you took Linda and me when we were children, to the special time we spent together in London while you patiently waited for the arrival of your granddaughter, Iris.

My heart breaks knowing we came too late. How I wish I could hug you one last time.

Your grandchildren will grow up knowing they had an incredible grandmother who loved them deeply. I promise you they will never forget you.

We will miss you both more than words can ever express. Though the pain of losing you is heavy, your love will live on through all of us.

Thank you for the love you gave us, the values you taught us, and the family you built.

We love you always, Mama and Daddy.

May you both rest peacefully together.

Tribute from Children – Sabrina Lamie Awuni

TRIBUTES

Tribute from In-Laws

Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni, whom we came to love deeply and call Daddy, and Mrs. Lena Awuni, who became a second mother to us, were people of strength, kindness and quiet wisdom. They were devoted to their family and lived lives grounded in love, humility and integrity.

Together, they will be remembered for their gentle spirits, their guidance and the values they instilled in all who knew them.

Daddy and Mummy, we miss you both dearly. Your legacy and guidance will remain with us always.

Family Tribute

TO LATE DR. JOSEPH ADONGO AWUNI FROM FAMILY

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God: believe also in me...I go and prepare a place for you." John 14:1-3

Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni was born to Anangina Awuni and Mary-Ann Azeyuure in the Abila family of Yorogo Atiabisi in the upper East Region.

To distinguish him from other Adongo's in the family, he was called Alumaam-Deo Dongo. He was the first of three (3) siblings and the only boy of his late parents.

Dr. Joseph Adongo was very much loved by his parents, siblings and members of the larger Abila family.

He had good relations with everyone in the family. He went through Yorogo Primary School, Bawku Secondary School to become a Veterinary Doctor after gaining scholarship to study in Kiev, Ukraine in the then USSR.

Dr. Adongo paid his dues to his parents, siblings, family members and the entire Yorogo community. He organized vaccination campaigns for chickens for the Yorogo community while working with the Veterinary headquarters in Accra.

Dr. Awuni supported a few youths to gain admission into the Veterinary college in Pong-Tamale who later gained employment.

Doctor nearly pursued a priesthood course but for the scholarship he gained to study outside. He was called "Little Joe" because of his small stature when he was young.

Brother Joe Adongo was taken ill lately but his sickness was not the cause of his death.

We woke up on Tuesday morning, March 10th to hear your tragic death.

Who are we to question God. We will greatly miss you.

Alumaam-Deo Dongo paa songa.

May the angels of God Receive your soul and that of your wife Mrs. Lena Awuni till we meet on resurrection day

TRIBUTES

TO LATE LENA AWUNI FROM FAMILY

With deep sorrow and pain in our hearts, we — brother Mykola, sister Valya, and sister Nina — express our sincere condolences and words of loving remembrance for our dear sister Olena Dmytrivna and her husband Joseph.

Olena Dmytrivna was not only our sister but also a very close and beloved person who always gave warmth, care, and support. Her kindness, sincerity, and wisdom will forever remain in our hearts. She had a special gift for bringing the family together, finding words of comfort in difficult moments, and appreciating the simple joys of life.

By her side throughout life was her husband Joseph — a man with a big heart, kind and sincere. Together they created an example of a true family built on love, respect, and mutual support.

The bright memory of them will forever live in our hearts. We will always remember their kindness, humanity, and the warmth they shared with others.

May the Lord receive their souls into the Kingdom of Heaven and leave us with the light of cherished memories.

Eternal and loving memory.

With love and sorrow,
brother Mykola,
sister Valya,

A LOVING TRIBUTE TO MY AUNT FROM TAMARA

My dear "Big Sister" that's exactly what you were to me, my dear, life-loving, positive aunt Lyusya. It's very painful to accept that you won't call anymore, we won't talk about our families, children, grandchildren anymore, I won't hear your compliments. Although there is a very big distance between us, we were always in touch (via video). It's a pity that unfulfilled dreams remained. My dream was to come to visit you, chat, see your country (with you), the ocean. Your dream was to come to Ukraine. You said that you really missed your family, Ukrainian products (lard) and Kyiv.

In Kyiv you met Joseph, created a beautiful family. In Ghana you lived your happy family earthly life. It is a pity that this earthly life turned out to be so short, there is only life to live and enjoy every moment, children, grandchildren. But it so happened that God took you away together on one day. This is a great loss for all of us. The loss is irreparable, but love and memories will remain forever.

Rest in peace. RIP
Kingdom of heaven.
Eternal memory.

TRIBUTES

A TRIBUTE TO OUR BELOVED AUNT LUCY (LENA AWUNI)

Today our hearts are filled with pain and sorrow because we have lost a very dear person — our beloved Aunt Lucy. It is hard to find words that could truly express how great this loss is for our entire family. She was a woman with a big heart, a sincere soul, and an endless love for her family.

Aunt Lucy was the kind of person who always protected and cared for her loved ones. She truly loved each of us, worried about us, rejoiced in our successes, and supported us during difficult moments. Her care was quiet but very strong — the kind that you feel deeply in your heart.

Her love for her nieces and nephews was especially special. She always found warm words, was interested in our lives, supported us, and sincerely celebrated every step we took forward. For us, she was not just an aunt — she was a close and kind soul, someone we could always turn to and feel warmth and understanding.

Even while living abroad, she was never far from us in spirit. Her heart always remained with her family. She called, wrote, worried, supported, and loved us — the way only a truly kind and sincere person can love.

Aunt Lucy was a beautiful, bright, and very cheerful woman. She loved life and knew how to bring joy to others. Her smile was sincere, her laughter contagious, and her presence always brought warmth and light. When she was around, people felt calmer and happier.

Today it is very painful for us to say goodbye. But along with this pain, our hearts are filled with deep gratitude for having had her in our lives — for her love, her care, and all the bright moments we were lucky to share with her.

We will always remember her kindness, her voice, her smile, and her big loving heart. She will remain with us forever — in our memories, in our hearts, and in our love.

Rest in peace, dear Aunt Lucy.
Bright and eternal memory to you.
You will always be with us.

From Irina

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR. JOSEPH ADONGO AWUNI FROM THE VETERINARY FRATERNITY

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." – 2 Timothy 4:7

The veterinary fraternity and animal health scientists around the world, and particularly in Ghana, mourn the passing of Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni, a distinguished scientist, mentor, and servant of the nation. His life was a beacon of dedication, humility, and unwavering commitment to advancing animal health and safeguarding livelihoods.

We remember him not only for his brilliance in science, but for the warmth of his spirit, the generosity of his mentorship, and the love he shared with his family and colleagues. His journey was one of service, sacrifice, and vision, a journey that touched lives across borders and generations.

Scientific Contributions Dr. Awuni's career was marked by excellence in veterinary laboratory science and a deep passion for research that served both Ghana and the global community.

- He devoted his time to the preservation of the I-2 vaccine master seed (thermostable Newcastle disease vaccine) developed in Australia, and facilitated its mass production in Ghana, championing its use across Ghana and West Africa to protect rural poultry against Newcastle disease and strengthen food security.
- He contributed significantly to global knowledge on viral animal diseases, including Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), and Newcastle disease in village chickens.
- He was at the forefront of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) diagnosis in West Africa, and played a pivotal role in establishing early warning systems and rapid response mechanisms in Ghana following the first outbreak in 2007.
- He was one of the selected veterinarians who undertook a United Nations FAO assignment in post-war Liberia, where he helped strengthen veterinary services and set up early warning systems to prevent and control transboundary animal diseases.
- With his skills and expertise in poultry science, molecular virology, zoonotic diseases and zoonoses, viral immunology, veterinary microbiology, and virology, Dr. Awuni authored and published over 40 scientific research papers, which have been cited by close to 1,000 scientists worldwide, a testament to his enduring impact on global science.

His scientific work strengthened disease surveillance, informed policy, and advanced the One Health agenda that connects human, animal, and environmental wellbeing.

Leadership and Service

TRIBUTES

Dr. Awuni retired from active service as Deputy Director of Veterinary Services in charge of Veterinary Laboratories and as Head of the Accra Veterinary Laboratory. In these roles, he provided strategic leadership, strengthened laboratory systems, and ensured that diagnostic excellence remained the cornerstone of disease prevention and control.

The Veterinary Services Directorate of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, together with all actors in the animal health value chain, will forever miss his candid opinions and expert recommendations on matters of disease prevention and control, always grounded in laboratory diagnosis before the commencement of any treatment.

Mentorship and GVMA Commitment

Dr. Awuni was a devoted member of the Ghana Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA). He will be forever remembered for his active participation in Annual General Meetings and Bi-annual Congresses, where he generously mentored young and aspiring veterinary laboratory scientists. His guidance nurtured a new generation of professionals, instilling in them the values of scientific rigor, integrity, and service to humanity.

Personal Legacy and "The Double Agony"

As we mourn our beloved colleague, friend, and brother, we cannot forget what many of us called "the double agony." Alongside Dr. Awuni's professional brilliance was the warmth and hospitality of his dear wife, who welcomed us with open arms whenever we visited their home. Tragically, she passed on together with her husband, on the same day and in the same moment. Their bond was inseparable in life, and their departure together leaves us with both sorrow and reverence for the love they shared.

Farewell

Beyond his professional achievements, Dr. Awuni will be remembered for his warmth, generosity, and mentorship. Together with his wife, he leaves behind a memory of kindness, hospitality, and devotion that will forever inspire us.

As we bid farewell, we celebrate a life well lived, a life of service, leadership, and love for humanity. The veterinary fraternity honors his memory and commits to carrying forward his vision of a stronger, healthier Ghana.

Farewell, Dr. Awuni and Madam. Your light continues to guide us. *"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."* — **Psalm 34:18**

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOSEPH ADONGO AWUNI BY THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) pays heartfelt tribute to the late Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni, a dedicated professional whose outstanding contributions to animal health and regional disease control in West and Central Africa will be remembered with deep respect and gratitude.

The late Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni joined the Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Accra, Ghana in 2020. He served as a member of the Regional Experts Team for West and Central Africa and played a pivotal role in advancing animal health initiatives and strengthening disease prevention and control systems across the region.

Dr. Awuni served as the Regional Project Coordinator for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) of the United States of America, overseeing Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) initiatives in West and Central Africa. His work spanned Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Niger, and Senegal.

Despite language barriers, Dr. Awuni successfully implemented FMD project activities in French-speaking countries through virtual collaboration, facilitating numerous Zoom meetings to ensure effective communication and coordination.

At the national level, he organized a hands-on workshop in Kumasi in May 2025, focusing on FMD outbreak response and laboratory training for veterinary field and laboratory staff.

Dr. Awuni also served as Regional Project Coordinator for African Swine Fever (ASF), a devastating viral disease affecting pig farmers and the livelihoods of those in the pig value chain across the region.

He facilitated a regional workshop in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in April 2025 on Good Emergency Management Practices (GEMP) in pig production, bringing together participants from Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria.

At the national level in Ghana, Dr. Awuni spearheaded several landmark initiatives:

1. National Training Workshop for Pig farmers on Biosecurity and Husbandry Practices (January 2025, Koforidua).
2. Development of Ghana National ASF Strategy (May 2025, Kumasi).
3. Validation and Training on ASF Strategy Implementation (May 2025, Kumasi).
4. Production and Dissemination of ASF Risk Communication Materials (June 2025, Accra).

These activities demonstrated his unwavering commitment, dedication, and sense of duty. His efforts significantly strengthened ASF and FMD prevention and control across West and Central Africa.

Dr. Awuni was a regular contributor to ECTAD's weekly meetings every Monday, where he provided updates on ASF and FMD progress. His colleagues fondly remember his humor, warmth, and positive spirit during these sessions.

We at the FAO mourn deeply and with heavy hearts alongside his bereaved family. Dr. Awuni's legacy of service, dedication, and compassion will continue to inspire all who worked with him.

May his soul, and that of his beloved wife Lena, rest in perfect peace.

TRIBUTES

Contribution from Ismaila Seck, Animal Health Officer FAO Headquarters, Rome

In my capacity as Regional Epidemiologist, I had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Joseph Awuni and witnessing firsthand his outstanding professionalism, dedication and collaborative spirit. His contribution to strengthening animal health surveillance and emergency preparedness in West Africa was remarkable and deeply valued by colleagues and partners.

Dr. Awuni provided invaluable support during the initiation and consolidation of the weekly regional animal health situation updates, which have become an essential coordination mechanism for early warning, information sharing and joint response planning across countries. His technical expertise, field experience and practical insights significantly improved the quality and relevance of regional epidemiological analyses.

He also played a key role in the implementation of several important regional initiatives, particularly in the prevention and control of African Swine Fever (ASF) and Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD). Through his leadership and commitment, he contributed to strengthening national capacities, promoting regional coordination and enhancing preparedness and response to transboundary animal diseases.

In addition, Dr. Awuni demonstrated strong engagement in the coordination of the ECOWAS Regional Laboratory Network (RESOLAB), where he actively supported the ASF technical working group. His efforts helped reinforce regional laboratory collaboration, improve disease detection and support harmonized approaches to risk assessment and disease control.

Contribution from Ibrahima Maiga, Operations Officer, FAO Regional Office for Africa:

I first had the opportunity to work with Dr. Joseph Awuni in 2008 during a regional training workshop organized in Accra, Ghana. At the time, I travelled from Bamako in my capacity as Operations Officer to support the preparation and organization of the workshop. From the very beginning, Dr. Awuni's availability, efficiency and readiness to assist were instrumental in ensuring that the logistical and operational arrangements were smoothly handled. His local knowledge, professionalism and cooperative spirit contributed greatly to the success of that training event.

Our professional paths crossed again years later when Dr. Awuni joined FAO as the coordinator for the FMD and ASF projects. In that role, I had the opportunity to observe even more closely his strong sense of responsibility and his commitment to delivering results. Dr. Awuni carried out his duties with remarkable professionalism, seriousness and dedication. He approached his work with a clear sense of purpose and consistently demonstrated reliability and integrity in the implementation of project activities.

Beyond his technical contributions, colleagues will remember Dr. Awuni as someone who approached his responsibilities with humility and quiet determination. His commitment to supporting animal health initiatives and strengthening regional collaboration left a lasting impression on those who had the privilege to work alongside him.

It was an honour to have known and worked with him. His dedication and professionalism will remain a valued memory among colleagues in the FAO community.

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE BY UNIVERSITY OF GHANA MEDICAL CENTRE (UGMC). RENAL DIALYSIS UNIT

"Then I heard a voice from heaven say, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.' They will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them." – **Revelation 14:13.**

Today, we pause with heavy hearts to pay tribute to Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni, affectionately known to us all as "Papa D."

Dr. Awuni was one of our cherished clients who received care at the University of Ghana Medical Center from 2024 until his passing in March 2026.

From the very first day he walked into our dialysis unit, Papa D was more than just a patient to us,—he became part of our family.

He carried himself with dignity, humility, and a remarkable sense of responsibility toward his care. He was always cooperative, deeply principled, and never afraid to ask questions.

Papa D wanted to understand his journey, and through those conversations, we saw a man who was determined to face his challenges with courage and wisdom.

Papa D became a familiar and cherished presence in our unit. His calm demeanor, respectful nature, and quiet strength left a deep impression on everyone who had the privilege of caring for him. Even in the face of illness, he showed resilience and grace that inspired us all.

To the dialysis team, Papa D will always be remembered as one of our most disciplined and dedicated clients. His commitment to his treatment was truly inspiring. Sometimes, he would call a day ahead of his session, not to complain, but to gently remind us of his next dialysis appointment. That simple act spoke volumes about the kind of person he was: organized, responsible, and fully engaged in the fight for his health.

This self discipline is what triggered the unit to reach out to his next of kin because all attempts to reach him and mummy for his next session proved futile, a situation unheard of since he never failed to reply missed calls from the unit.

Today, as we remember him, we do not only remember a patient—we remember a fatherly figure, a disciplined soul, and a man whose presence brought warmth and respect into our dialysis unit.

Though he is no longer physically with us, the memory of Papa D will remain forever in our hearts. His courage, his curiosity, and the strength with which he walked this difficult journey will never be forgotten.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE FROM THE NDC – ADENTA CONSTITUENCY

In Memory of the Late Hon. Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni

The late Hon. Joseph Adongo Awuni, whose mortal remains lie before us today, was a stalwart of the National Democratic Congress. He was a dedicated member of the party in the then-Kpeshie area, originally serving under the Ashaiman Constituency.

A true pioneer, our late Comrade was among the visionary forces that advocated for the carving out of the Adenta Constituency from Ashaiman. Following this transition, he distinguished himself as the first Assemblyman for Gbentaana. He was an exceptionally hardworking and humble man who served the party with unwavering loyalty and selflessness.

"Hon. Dr. Awuni," as he was affectionately called, was an instrumental leader and a father figure to many. His charisma and influence were so profound that he inspired many to join our ranks, truly making the NDC his second family.

His commitment was most evident during the 2004 Parliamentary and Presidential primaries and the subsequent general elections, where he contributed tremendously to the campaign of our then-parliamentary candidate, Lt. Col. (Rtd.) Kabu Davies. His efforts extended far beyond the Gbentaana Electoral Area; he was a catalyst for the growth of the party across the entire constituency.

As age caught up with him, he passed the baton to one of his daughters, who has since continued her father's stellar legacy. His passing is a profound shock and a devastating blow to the people of the Gbentaana Ward, the Adenta NDC, and the party at large. He leaves behind a vacuum that will be incredibly difficult to fill.

While we find ourselves asking "Why?", we submit to the will of the Almighty. As the scriptures remind us: "In everything, give thanks."

The NDC is eternally grateful for the vital role Comrade Dr. Awuni played from his first day in the party until his final breath. The Adenta NDC will forever miss his presence, his wisdom, and his dedication. Though his exit is painful, we take solace in the belief that he is resting peacefully with his Maker.

Hon. Dr. Joseph Adongo Awuni, rest peacefully.

Comrade Awuni, Da yiye.

Amen.

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE FROM FORMER COLLEAGUE – THE GAMBIA

I am writing to share my deepest condolences and to honor the memory of a remarkable man whom I had the privilege of knowing for over twenty years. Joseph was more than a colleague; he was a constant, bright presence in our professional lives.

Over two decades of working together, I witnessed firsthand his unwavering commitment to his field. As a proud representative of Ghana within the Network of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories, Joseph served his country and our regional scientific community with immense dedication. He was highly respected by all who worked with him, not only for his expertise but for the genuine, positive relationships he built so effortlessly.

Joseph had a rare gift. Even in the midst of our most serious scientific sessions, his jovial spirit and interesting perspective could shift the entire atmosphere. He had a natural way of connecting with people from the very first meeting, making everyone feel heard and valued. His presence truly made a difference in the ambience of our work, reminding us all of the human connection behind our shared goals.

We have lost a brilliant communicator, a respected professional, and a truly good man. His legacy will live on through the many lives he touched and the standards he set in his work.

May his gentle soul rest in eternal peace.

Dr Kebba Daffeh

Former Director of Veterinary Services of The Gambia

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOSEPH AWUNI, FROM ANGELIQUE ANGOT – LABORATORY SPECIALIST, FAO HEADQUARTERS, ROME

I first met Dr. Joseph Awuni in Bamako in December 2011, during the RESOLAB 5th Annual Coordination Meeting. I remember vividly how proudly he presented the data coming from the veterinary laboratory in Accra. From the very first moment, it was clear how passionate he was, how confidently he approached his work, and how deeply he cared about strengthening laboratory systems and animal health surveillance.

Since that moment, Dr. Awuni has remained for me—and for so many colleagues across the region and the world—an unwavering point of reference in Ghana. His professionalism, his generosity in sharing knowledge, and his constant readiness to support regional collaboration made him an essential pillar of the RESOLAB network and far beyond.

In addition to his scientific contributions, what stood out the most was his integrity and his genuine dedication to improving animal health. Dr. Awuni was not only a respected expert; he was a colleague who inspired trust, admiration, and friendship.

His passing is an immense loss for the veterinary laboratory community in Ghana and worldwide. His legacy, however, lives on through the systems he strengthened, the colleagues he trained, and the spirit of collaboration he embodied so well.

May his memory continue to guide and inspire us.
My deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

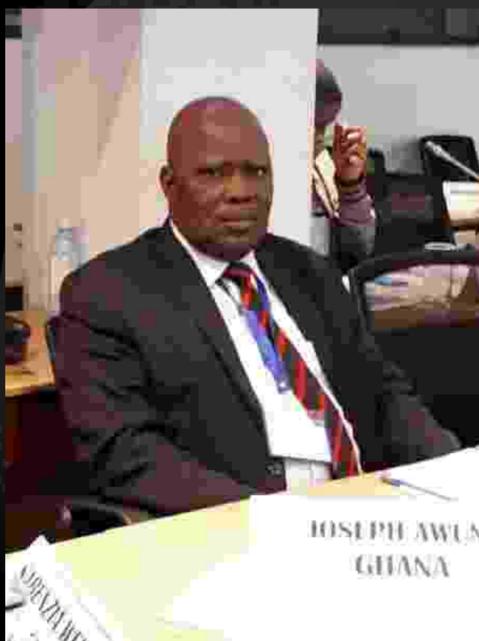
Contribution from Giovanni Cattoli, Health Director, IZSve Padova, Italy:

I met Joseph for the first time about twenty years ago. Since then, we have worked together on several missions and RESOLAB meetings, and from the very beginning, a relationship of mutual respect, trust, and warmth developed between us.

My memory of Joseph is undoubtedly that of an outstanding professional. Yet, the memory I now hold closest to my heart is that of a friend who knew how to combine seriousness with cheerfulness, always proactive and willing to help and collaborate with everyone.

It was both an honor and a great pleasure to know Joseph and have the opportunity to work alongside him.

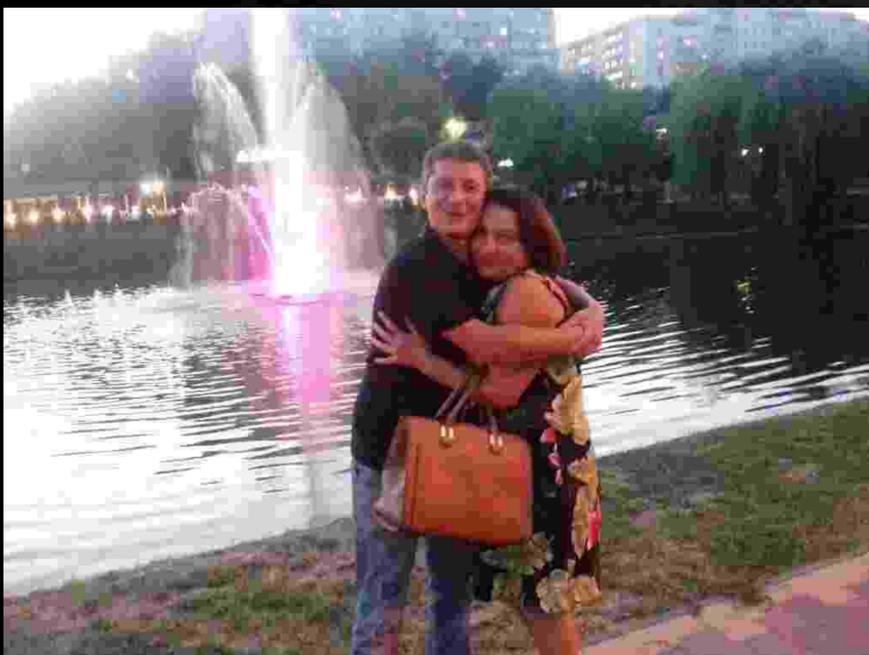
GALLERY



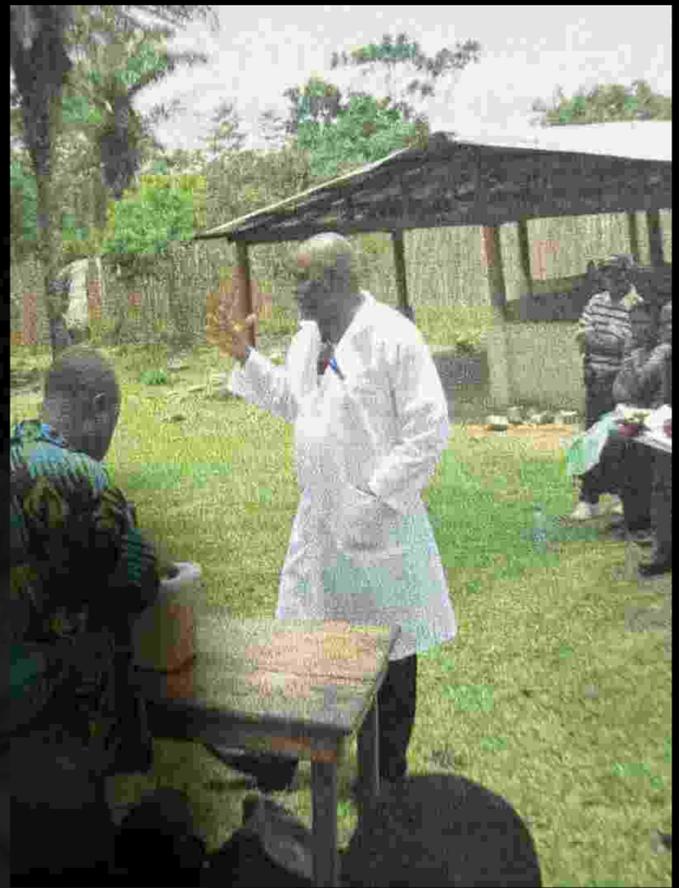
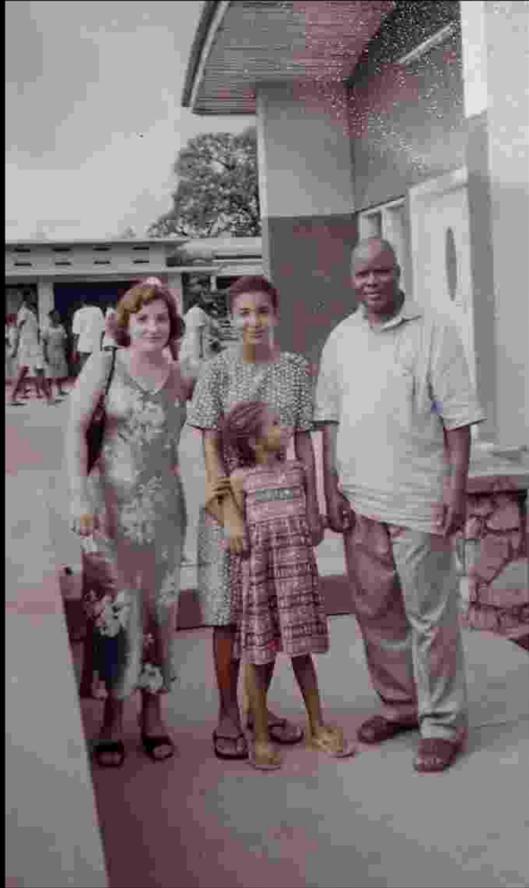
GALLERY



GALLERY



GALLERY





Rest in Love
Till we meet again

