

Forever In Our Hearts



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

Linda Lucy Dove

6TH MAY, 1958 - 8TH MARCH, 2021

Officiating Ministers

1. Bishop Emmanuel Louis Nterful
2. Bishop Charles Amo
3. Bishop Sam Sawyer
4. Bishop Patrick Bruce

Order of Service

- Filing past
- Closing of casket
- Song:
- Opening prayer
- First Scripture Reading:
- Second Scripture reading:
- Song:
- Biography/Tributes
- Offertory for family
- Sermon
- Closing prayer
- Song:
- The Benediction

Burial service

- Lowering of casket
- Song:
- Committal
- Prayer
- Song:
- Vote of Thanks (By family member)
- Closing prayer

Please note that due to Covid-19 restrictions, only 25 people are allowed at the cemetery.

Biography of Ms. Linda Dove

Ms. Linda Dove was born in Accra on 6th May, 1958 to Mr. Gordon Farrell Dove and Mrs. Effuah Mirandah Dove, both of blessed memory. She was the first of three siblings.

Linda started her primary education at the Association International School in 1963. She continued her secondary education at Accra Girls' Secondary School from 1970 to 1975. She then proceeded to Accra High Secondary in 1976 where she obtained her GCE 'O' Level.

In 1977 Linda entered St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School and she obtained her GCE 'A' Level Certificate in 1979. She later went to Specialist Training College to study art for a year.

Linda joined the Information Services Audio Visual Aids Department in 1980 where she worked as a Technical Officer. She was promoted to the rank of Senior Technical Officer in 2008 and Principal Technical Officer in 2016.

In 2011, Linda decided to join her sisters in Kumasi. She applied for and was granted a transfer to the Information Services Department, Ejisu.

She was promoted to the rank of Principal Technical Officer in 2016. She retired in May 2018.

Linda was a member of the Accra Ridge church. She later joined the Ridge Church Youth Fellowship. Following the move of the family to La, Linda joined the Rose of Sharon Cathedral, La branch of the United Denominations Originating from the Lighthouse Group of churches (UD-OLGC). She was pastored first by Bishop Charles Amoo and later Bishop Sam Sawyer, our officiating ministers today.

Upon moving to Kumasi, Linda joined the Fountain of Life Cathedral(UD-OLGC) till her demise.

Linda was a sweet and gentle person. She loved the Lord and spent her free time reading Christian literature. Bishop Dag Heward-Mills was her favourite author.

Linda was admitted to the Komfo Anokye hospital on the night of 4th March 2021. Just when we thought she was getting better, she was called home on the 8th of March 2021.

An Open Letter To Our Sister Linda

Many things in life are not easy. But we hope you don't mind us telling you that writing a tribute to you is probably one of the hardest things we've ever done.

I (Joy) find myself a bit bewildered to think that you really are not here anymore! The cold reality, the finality of death has been so hard to grasp. I will miss you coming over to the house and our conversations about whatever current book you were reading. You always loved reading. I look at the chair you always sat in when you came over and it seems so empty now. I will miss our walks around the area and I will miss you on Sunday mornings when you would pass by my office at church and pause to drink a cup of tea on your way into the service. In this fast paced world where we often fail to stop and just spend a moment to smile at others and say hello, you always did. To me you were the most patient person I have ever known. Truth be told, I don't remember the last time you were angry!

What I (Yvonne) will remember you most for, is your sweet and gentle personality. You were always concerned about how people were doing.

Linda and I shared a love of bread and tea with which we would end our day. I would arrive home quite late some days and I would call her to kindly open the gate so I could drive in. No matter the hour she would never complain that I was disturbing her! I can't believe that the next time I drive in she won't be there!!!

Oh Sis! I will miss the times we would chat about what had gone on during the day. I will miss the times you would tell me a story; I will miss our drives to church or anywhere you wanted me to go with you. I will miss the times we just sat to chat. I will miss the times that I would pour my heart out to you when I was upset about something. I will miss the times you were excited about something and you couldn't wait to tell me on my return from work.

However God, who knows best, has given you a place in heaven which is by far better than any place of residence on earth.

Monday 8th March. Suddenly you were gone. How come? What happened to our plans to live together in the same compound at Ayuom. The place is ready now but you are gone!

We thank God for the 10 years we had together in Kumasi. You were so happy. You were our link to the extended family, our "information officer" as you would often call the aunts and keep us informed of how they were doing. Who will tell us the Dove news now?

But there's a light in all this darkness. You believed in Jesus our Saviour! One thing is sure! We shall meet again. We have found solace in the scriptures:

1 Corinthians 15:50-54

50 What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever.

51 But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed!

52 It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed.

53 For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.

54 Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

And so our dearest big sister Lindi, as we used to call you, we will meet again one day. Till then rest well in the arms of our Lord. We love you always.

Tribute by Brother-in-law

*"We blossom and flourish
As leaves on a tree
And wither and perish
But nought changes Thee."*

Linda probably didn't do the things that we usually associate with great people. She was a totally average person. But she was an A1 average person. She was patient, gentle and very very kind. Always smiling or about to smile. I don't think I ever saw her angry. And I've been around these ladies for 40 years now.

She was precisely who you would refer to as a "Kind Soul". Why she left us first is a great mystery, and we will not know. But I also have the feeling that if we had asked her, she would probably opted to go first.

Now a certain scripture makes more sense,

Isaiah 57: 1-2 NLT

1 Good people pass away; the godly often die before their time. But no one seems to care or wonder why. No one seems to understand that God is protecting them from the evil to come.

2 For those who follow godly paths will rest in peace when they die.

Linda, rest in peace. The peace of the godly.

Tribute by Nephews

From Apostle Farrell Nikki Bruce, Madagascar Missions

Today we are gathered to remember and honour one of the gentlest souls to have walked the earth.

It was a great shock to hear of the passing of our beloved Aunty Linda. Upon hearing the news, my first reaction was disbelief.

Aunty Linda was a pleasant person to be around. I don't think I can remember a single occasion when I saw her angry or behaving rudely to anyone. She always remembered our birthdays and celebrated us. I could tell she thought about us out here in Madagascar very often because she would frequently get in touch to check up on us. I had no idea when I saw her during my last visit to Ghana in mid-2019 that it would be the last time.

Aunty Linda, we deeply miss you already even though we know that you are in a better place, happier than you've ever been. May you enjoy the rest of the Lord till we meet again. Love you.

From Pastor Dr Ashong Bruce, Nyaho Clinic, Accra

I thank God so much for your life and all that you have been to me and my brothers. Thank you for all the years of birthday phone calls and birthday cards. You would always keep our cards until we came to Accra. One time you gave me my birthday card all the way in August, having kept it for me from May to August.

Forever in our hearts.



60th Birthday

I'm going to miss your big smile. I'm going to miss making you cups of tea. I'm going to miss your texts checking up on me or asking for some medical advice. I'm going to miss updating your apps for you and most of all I'm going to miss you. Your death is our loss but your gain. I love you.

From Cleland Cofie Bruce, First Love Church, Accra

There are two things I remember most about our Aunty Linda. First is how gentle, peaceful and quiet she was. I would often find her in the living room with a book in her hand, a cup of tea and a smile followed by a quick 'Hello Cofie, How're you doing?'

She had a gentle spirit. She was not the quarreling type, not the easily-angered type and not the complaining type.

The second thing I remember is, Aunty Linda gave the most gifts. Many birthdays, almost all of them, I would receive a gift - often a book, sometimes a bowl of ice cream, an envelope with money ...something. A kind and thoughtful gesture and I think it was her special way of showing love, showing she cared and showing she remembered me.

I will remember you too Aunty Linda and I will miss you. Rest well.

Tribute from Aunty Helen Odamtten

My siblings and I received with shock and much sadness, the news of the sudden death of our niece, Linda Dove, the eldest of three children of our mother's first cousin, Mr Gordon Dove, of blessed memory. They were close cousins so Linda and her siblings have been part of our lives since we met them on our return home from our sojourn abroad.

Linda remained in Accra with her parents when her younger siblings left for Tamale, to help build and establish their church, the Light House Chapel. We met regularly either on visits to each other's homes to her doctor who took good care of her or at church where she was an active member of the Ridge Youth.

Linda was charming, always with a ready smile. She was also very considerate, eager to know how everyone was faring. She was artistic for many years, producing tie and dye material which we all patronized.

Since she joined her siblings in Kumasi, Linda and I have remained in regular touch, often late at night, either through phone calls or whatsapp texts.

When I did not get any response from her, all of a sudden, I assumed she was having problems with her phone and would soon be back in touch, not knowing she was battling for her life. When Joy and Yvonne informed me that she was seriously ill but improving, I joined them in prayers for her recovery. Alas, it was not to be when I received an unaccustomed call from Joy's husband, I knew instinctively, that what he had to say would not be good news.

God in his wisdom, had called her to Himself. It is our joint loss. To Joy and finally to Yvonne, thank you and God bless you for ensuring that Linda was not left on her own here in Accra. My siblings and I will miss her. I already do.

Dear Linda, rest in perfect peace. Amen.

Tribute To Aunty Linda from the Nunoo Brothers.

Alas, one shall one day have to say goodbye to their friend. And you, Aunty Linda, have been, and always will be, a dear friend to us. For we will never forget all the wonderful moments we spent with you. You watched over us and cared for us when we were lonely, and you treated us like your own. Our hearts grieve oh so intensely, but we know that you are in a better place. And we know all is well. We shall always miss you.

Aunty Linda, it is hard to believe that the angels have taken you home at a time we least expected.

We can hardly take in the fact that your sudden demise has unexpectedly terminated the moments we enjoyed with you.

We will never forget you and your kindness, we will never forget all the times you gave us food when we were hungry, we will never forget all the times we sat on your couch and watched television with you.

We could go on forever about all the things you used to do for us. No one can and no one will ever replace the kind, loving, helpful and sweet woman that you were.

You have left a mark in our hearts and nothing will ever erase it. You were a gem and will remain cherished.

Our love for you will forever remain. Rest well Aunty Linda.

Hanniel, Oko and Atteh.

Tribute By The Information Services Department (Exhibitions), Accra.

The late Linda Dove was employed into the Information Services Department on the 1st February, 1980 as youth in training posted to Exhibitions Section of the ISD, Audio Visual Unit.

Miss Linda Dove excelled in her field of work and rose through the ranks to become a Senior Technical Officer (STO) in 1st January, 2008.

She was posted to the Ashanti Region on 26th January, 2012 to the Ejisu District of the Information Services Department.

She retired from active service in the year 2018.

Miss Dove was the quiet type but she relates to everyone very well. When it comes to work, she was hardworking and once a while will joke with us and go back to her usual self.

Abla as we affectionately called her, we miss you.

We missed her when she was posted to Ashanti region only for us to hear of her demise. Fare thee well Abla

Till we meet again.

Tribute By The Information Services Department Staff of Ejisu.

Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses. He sets the time for birth and he sets the time for death.

Ecclesiastes: 3: 1-2

Therefore being Christians we believe that what has happened was bound to be. But we believe also that we will meet again when the trumpet sounds on the last day.

Aunty Linda affectionately called Mama Dove was a quiet but kind person who we all grew to love dearly at the office. Her care and concern for people will always prompt her to ask of everybody's well being when she comes to the office.

When Getty gave birth to a child she was always the first to buy presents for her. Similarly when one was bereaved you will find her there comforting the bereaved. For instance when Madam Dora lost her mom she was there to give her support and that was even during her retirement.

We never heard about her illness only to be hit by the thunder bolt of the news about her death. Death has laid its icy hands on Mama Dove and we are unable to see her now. But this we know that we the staff still love you and you will forever be fondly remembered. Fare well till we meet again in the Lord.

Tribute to Ms. Linda Dove: By Mad. Esinam P. Ibrahim (Head Of Dept, ISD)

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge will give to me on that day and not only me but also to all those who have loved his appearing

2 Tim. 4:7-8

Indeed you have fought a good fight for you were able to retire peacefully in 2018. A fate most people wishes for but never had. Ms. Linda Dove, affectionately called Mama Dove was a staff of the ISD in Ejisu (Information Services Dept) under the Ministry of Information where she worked as a Principal Technical Officer before her retirement in May 2019.

I came to know Mama Dove when I was posted from Ashanti Mampong to Ejisu in 2016. Her punctuality to work and the smartness with which she dressed to work, besides her warm disposition drew me closer to her. Since then she became not only a colleague that I grew to love but was more of a big sister to me.

She will be fondly remembered by the way she cares and takes personal interest in one's well being as she often asked the question "How are you madam? The little boy, I mean your small boy and your father too?"

These questions and the bond we had never ceased after her retirement. And so about two weeks before the sad news of her demise hit us like a thunder bolt, she called and we had a little chat in which she intended to visit me but I informed her I had travelled and so when I returned. But few days later she sent me a whatsapp message which read "too late". I did not respond because I thought of meeting her in a little over two weeks so she could explain to me.

Unfortunately, that did not happen because she has decided to take the lead as she indicated in her message to me "too late". Yes, it's too late to chat with you now. Fare well, rest in the bosom of our Patriarch Abraham till we meet again at the resurrection of the dead.

Hade nui, dzedzo le nuiti fafa me.

1. Through All The Changing Scenes Of Life

Through all the changing scenes of life,
In trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ.

Of His deliverance I will boast
Till all the that are distressed
From my example comfort take,
And charm their griefs to rest

O magnify the Lord with me,
With me exalt his name;
When in distress, to him I called
He to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around
The dwellings of the just;
Deliverance He affords to all
Who on His succour trust

O make but trial of his love;
Experience will decide
How blessed they are, and only they,
Who in his truth confide.

Fear him, you saints, and you will then
Have nothing else to fear;
Make you His service shall be your delight,
Your wants shall be his care.

2. How Sweet The Name of Jesus Sounds

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a
believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole
And calms the troubles breast;
Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest
Jesus, my shepherd, brother
friend, my prophet, priest and king
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,
Accept the praise thing

Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death.

3. Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in
might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and
love.

To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but nought changeth
Thee

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render, O help us to see:
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee.

4. What A Friend We Have In Jesus.

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

5. When Peace Like A River Attendeth My Way

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul