

IN LOVING MEMORY

Lydia Aba
TETTEH
(née ELLIS)

**On Saturday, 11th September, 2021
At the Transition Funeral Home
Haatso - Accra
At 9.00 a.m.**





OFFICIAL CLERGY

The Most Rev. DR. Paul K. Bofo

(Presiding Bishop)

Very Rev. Dr. Samuel Dua Dodd

(Superintendent Minister)

Very Rev. Christopher Atta-Cudjoe

(Circuit Minister, Calvary Methodist Church, Adabraka)

Very Rev. Amoo Cudjoe

(Circuit Minister, Calvary Methodist Church, Adabraka)

The Very Rev. Prof. Ben. W. Garbrah

(Supernumerary, Calvary Methodist Church, Adabraka)

Rev'd Fr. Nana Kwesi Ellis

(ST. Philip Anglican Church, Ashaley Botwe)

EVANGELISTS

Opanyin Yaw Ofori

Kingsford Amoah

Dinah Ghartey

Irene Catherine Osam-Tewaiah

Dr. Kwaku Asante-krobea

STEWARDS

Bro. Alfred Quarm

Sis. Abigail Quargraine

Sis. Linda Fynn Carr

CHOIR MASTER

Bro. William G.E. Acquah

ORGANISTS

Bro. Edwin Atta Ghunney

Bro. Michael Imbeah

Bro. Abraham Ekumah

Bro. Stephen Anderson

CHOIR IN ATTENDANCE

Glorious Philharmonic Choir



Order of Service

PART 1: PRE-BURIAL SERVICE AT 7:00 A.M.

- Processing - Church Choir
- Opening Hymn - MHB 99
- Prayers
- Filing Past & Tribute
- Hymns - MHB CANF 1002, MHB 427, MHB 515, MHB 478,
MHB 647, MHB 602, MHB 528, MHB 498
- Covering of Casket

PART II : BURIAL SERVICE – 8:00 A.M.

- Sentences
- Hymn - MHB 517
- Prayers
- Hymn - MHB 525
- Biography
- Tributes
- Scriptures Readings (a) Psalm 90 : 1-12
(b) John 14: 1-6,27
- Hymn - MHB 511
- Sermon
- Apostle's Creed

- Offering
- Hymn - MHB 831
- Service of commemoration and commendation
- Concluding Prayers and the Lord's Prayer
- Announcements
- Presentation/vote of thanks
- Closing hymn - MHB 589
- Benediction
- Dead March in Saul
- Recession - MHB 651

PART III : AT THE GRAVE SIDE

- Hymn - MHB 976
- Committal
- Prayers
- Hymn - CAN 324
- Benediction



Biography

Mrs. LYDIA ABA KURANKYEWA TETTEH (nee ELLIS), was born to Mr. and Mrs. K.M.E. Ellis, both of blessed memory on 20th February 1947 at Saltpond. Out of the eleven children, she was the sixth born.

Mrs. Tetteh started her basic education at Kumasi in 1952, and continued to further her studies at the then Kumasi Polytechnic, to pursue Secretarial course. Upon completion, she was employed at the then Ghana Water & Sewerage Corporation (GWSC), now Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL). By dint of hard work and commitment, GWSC sponsored Mrs. Tetteh to the Government Secretarial School in Accra, where she distinguished herself in her academic work, and upon her successful completion of her course, she qualified as a Stenographer Secretary and worked directly with the Managing Director at the Head Office in Accra.

Mrs. Tetteh was a devout Methodist who took her relationship with God very seriously, and was dedicated to



His service and that of other believers. Sister Lydia or Auntie Lydia, as close family members called her, had a passion for reading. She read every print material from the Bible, novels, educational materials and



newspapers that were available to her. This enhanced her knowledge in every field of study, especially in current affairs - locally and internationally.

Mrs. Tetteh met her late husband, Mr. T.O. Tetteh and they got married in 1973 at the Calvary Methodist Church, Adabraka. Thereafter she moved to Cape Coast to live with her husband, and she officially asked for a

transfer to the Cape Coast Branch of the then GWSC. Auntie Lydia was eventually elevated to take charge of the Human Resource function of the company. She worked with well-known gentlemen such as Mr. Appiah Kubi, Mr. Ben Eghan Jnr, Mr. Gyimah Larbi and Mr. Essau Aryee, as her superiors at the GWSC. In 1993 Auntie Lydia retired from the GWSC.

Mr. and Mrs. Tetteh shared a very lovely family life with their children in Cape Coast, where she lived most part of her lifetime. Auntie Lydia did not relent on her responsibilities as a mother. Her love, empathy and patience for her children, enabled all of them to attain greater heights in their academic laurels and their careers. Auntie Lydia was readily available whenever her children needed any form of assistance, especially during their youthful exuberance; and she would travel to wherever they were to ensure that they were safe and in good hands.

When all the children had relocated abroad to pursue further studies and to later settle down with their marital partners, Auntie Lydia moved to the UK and the USA to spend ample time with them. Whilst in the UK, she took time to tour London and visited the Buckingham Palace, Westminster Parliament House, Big Ben and the Tower of London. She spent quality time with her grandchildren at the time: Nana and Maame, telling them



stories about family members, especially her late husband, Mr. T.O. Tetteh. As typical of her, she would read story books at her leisure time; and also read to the grandchildren and engaged in intellectual discussions with the family from football to politics. Auntie Lydia loved Nando's Chicken which she called ("the chicken with a flag"). She also spent a lot of interesting time with families and relations in the USA.

Auntie Lydia eventually relocated to Accra in 2015. As a caring family member, she loved to be present at all family gatherings even though she had difficulty walking due to old age. Auntie Lydia showed love to all her siblings and their children and would call to check on everyone, especially during their birthdays through telephone calls; and she really did remember the birthday of all her close family members. Her reading skills might have given her such an amazing memory.

Mrs. Tetteh suffered a few ailment in the later years of life and visited the hospital at regular intervals for check-ups. Unfortunately, on one of such visits, her health started becoming progressively worse, and could not hold on anymore. She sadly took her last breath on 28th May, 2021 at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital; and the news of her demise was received with great shock since it was least expected.



Mama Lydia, Auntie Lydia, Sister Lydia, you will be sorely missed and your memory will linger with us for a long while. Your thoughtfulness and your love for people (especially your children, Dada Payin, Dada Kakraba, Sister, Maame, Nana Kurankyi, siblings, nephews and nieces; as well as the entire family), will always be remembered and cherished.

May the good Lord keep you and grant your soul a peaceful rest. Auntie Lydia da yie! Rest Peacefully in the Lord. Amen!







Tribute

BY CHILDREN

"To each, there comes in their lifetime a special moment when they are figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to them and fitted to their talents. What a misfortune if that moment finds them unprepared for that which could have been their finest hour."

The above is a quotation from the iconic Prime Minister of Great Britain Winston Churchill in June 1940. I will come to the quotation from Churchill shortly.

Mrs. Lydia Aba Kurankyewa Tetteh popularly known as Auntie Lydia or Auntie Lyddie or even better as Maa Lyddie as we her children called her was born on the 20th of February 1947 at Saltpond in the Central Region to Mr. and Mrs. K.M.E.Ellis.

She had her primary education at Saltpond and continued to the Government Secretarial School in Accra where she pursued secretarial studies.

She qualified as stenographer secretary and worked directly with the managing director of the then Ghana Water Works later to become Ghana Water and Sewerage Corporation and now Ghana Water

Company at the head office. Upon getting married to our late father, she transferred to Cape Coast in the Central Region where she initially performed secretarial duties at GWSC regional office and by dint of hard work, was transferred to the Administration Unit and elevated to co-ordinate the human resource activities of the Corporation in the Central Region. She retired from the corporation in 1993 on account of vision challenges.

Psychologists identify four fundamental personality types, sanguine, melancholic, phlegmatic, and choleric.

Maa Lyddie easily fit in the first three of the traits viz sanguine (enthusiastic,





active, and social) melancholic (analytical, wise, and quiet) and phlegmatic (relaxed and peaceful).

She was certainly not choleric which is associated with short temper and irritability. This personality type I believe fits a gentleman very close to us who passed on some 36 years. That's all I am going to say about that.

Maa Lyddie built a peaceful home environment. Her style of home management was one of harmony.

To those of you who sing, the atmosphere was melodic and to those who play in the orchestra you will attest to her sense of coordination.

Some personal experiences

I recall during my days at the University of Ghana Legon, I had a terrible experience drinking some concoction during the long holidays. Not long after gulping down the

substance, I began to throw up. There were visible signs of dehydration. A phone call was placed immediately to Maa Lyddie at the office who stopped whatever she was doing and proceeded straight home. I remember vividly that scene with my head resting on my mother's left shoulder in the car. Please listen carefully to what I am about to say. Auntie Lyddie used to wear thick dark prescription lenses. She would normally hide her tears in difficult situations. This time the crying was so profuse that the tears could not escape detection. She had just lost our father and her husband when she was only 38 years and would not accept a second tragedy losing a son.

My sister Ivy tells us of her experiences with water shortages at the Mfantsiman Girls as Auntie Lyddie always ensured adequate water supply to her daughter. Ivy again tells us that the moment the girls saw the water tanker approaching the school, many of the girls meandered their way to be friends with Ivy in order to benefit from the extended privilege of getting some water.

For Jayne, the mentorship lessons she had from Auntie Lyddie were just

enormous.

Thomas had a habit of carrying sticks in his childhood days. Auntie counseled him to let something good come out of the sticks.

He now drums for mega churches and sings in addition to playing drums.

Maa Lyddie taught us hard work and taking responsibility for our decisions.

She taught the boys how to bake and always encouraged the girls to join their father in the poultry farm thus encouraging cross training at home.

Maa Lyddie trained us to be guided by decency, decorum, etiquette in relating to others.

In the closing, I wish to examine Maa Lyddie's life in the light of Churchill's quote:

That special moment was when she agreed to marry our father late Thomas Okai-Tetteh

We believe destiny tapped to her to do this special thing.

Your talents were fitted for that decision you made and to guide you build a family with your husband

You were absolutely prepared for the task.

Is it any wonder that we the children

have been with you till your demise even though our father passed on some 36 years ago?

For us being with you as our stepmother was a distinct privilege and a singular honor. You fulfilled Churchill's finest hour.

Rivers do not struggle to flow.

The billows of the sea do not struggle to row.

Maa Lyddie you never struggled to do what was right, it was your very nature.

Auntie, you fought the good fight, you finished the race, and you kept the faith. Your crown awaits you.

Wo mba Dada Panyin, Dada Kakraba, Sister, Maame Adenduwa na Nana Kurankyi....

Hen were rennfir wo da

Auntie Lyddie, Maa Lyddie, Aba Kurankyewa,

Nyame mfa wo kra nsie.

Da yie.







Tribute

BY SIBLINGS

***"O Giver unto man of breath,
O Holder of the keys of death,
O Quickener of the life within,
Save us from death, the death of sin;
That body, soul, and spirit be
For ever living unto Thee!" Amen.***

It was with a heavy heart and disbelief when we received the sudden death of our dear and lovable sister Mrs. Lydia Aba Tetteh also known as Sister Lydia Ellis by the entire family. Sister Lydia, as we (the younger ones) will normally call her, was the sixth child among the eleven children of the late Mr. and Mrs. K.M.E. Ellis. Sister Lydia was very quiet, hardworking, pleasant, affable, a mentor and a unified force of her brothers, sisters and the entire family. She effectively

and efficiently showed deep concern for the welfare of all her siblings as well as her nephews and nieces. Sister Lydia loved reading. She never forgot her daily Bible reading and her devotion to the Almighty God. She reads novels, newspapers and almost every printable material she comes across. Interestingly, whilst reading she will also be paying attention to all conversations around her and will immediately give her comment, then revert to her reading.

We would fondly remember her during birthdays. She remembers the dates of all close family members and will call to shower the necessary wishes on you. She was so concerned about the welfare of her siblings, nephews and nieces. When it comes to giving advice, on matters affecting the family unity and well-being, her wisdom was unmatched.

We would also remember Sister Lydia during family parties. She will sing and dance at every available moment. Even when she had difficulty walking in her old age, she will support herself and dance to any good music that appeals to her.

Though Sister Lydia is no more with us, it is our fervent belief that she is resting in the bosom of the ALMIGHTY GOD for He giveth and He taketh. We wish to thank God for her life and we would celebrate the life of our dear sister.

SISTER DA YIE!! NYAME NYIWUN SIE.



Kate Ellis

Dr Ben Ellis

Victor Ellis



Tribute

BY NEPHEWS & NIECES

OLIDDY as we fondly called Auntie Lydia, was very friendly, good natured and easy to relate with.

She was very articulate in the English language and also quite vested in the knowledge of other subjects like the bible.

Forget about consulting a dictionary and go to Auntie Lydia. You will surely have the explanation of words, phrases etc. as you desire.

We grew up knowing that OLIDDY loved to read extensively especially in the field of romance.

She used to have a library of 'MILLS and BOONS'- a popular romantic novel. Some of us begun to follow suit in that vein.

She would make contributions to conversations at the same time as being glued to reading. When asked to take her eyes off a book for a while, she will retort "I have to constantly exercise my brain, I

cannot allow my brain to be weak!"

She had a positive attitude to life, always attempting to explain and make light of gloomy situations. She never allowed her physical weakness to overshadow her happiness as she would be seen dancing happily during family get-togethers.

We would fondly miss you, "One thing we will miss about her is her ability to remember our birthdays and her conscious effort to call and wish us without fail. We shall surely miss those moments..." OLIDDY, but we take consolation in the fact that you are with your other siblings who went ahead of you to be with the Almighty God,

Rest well in the bosom of the Almighty God till we meet again.

DA YIE AUNTIE LYDIA. EWURADZE NFA WO NSIE.

Amen.





BY FORMER COLLEAGUES OF GHANA WATER COMPANY LTD.

Mrs. Lydia Aba Tetteh was transferred from GWSC Head Office to Cape Coast as Stenographer Secretary to join her late husband Mr. T.O. Tetteh.

By dint and hard work she was promoted to the position as Assistant Administrative Officer. She was in charge of the General office of the Administration. She was able to train a number of the staff under her supervision. This made the Administrative work in the general office progress smoothly. All hands were on deck when it comes to forwarding information to Head Office on or before dead line. She was admired by Regional, Sectional Heads, District Managers and all staff in GWCL staff in the Central Region all because of her love to get every assignment done on time.

She was so energetic and was able to discharge her official duties excellently that staff subordinates nick-named her with various names. These include Aba Locomotive, Aba



Horsepower and any expression that befits a hard-working person. When we call her with these names she just laugh over it because she took it from a positive perspective.

In her advanced age, Mrs. Tetteh was forced to retire due to her eyes. She was not able to read small inscriptions of documents which she handles in the office and this put a lot of strain and stress on her.

She actually left a mark at the Cape Coast GWCL and she will be fondly missed.

Rest In peacefully in the bosom of the Almighty, dear sister.



Tribute

BY THE CHURCH

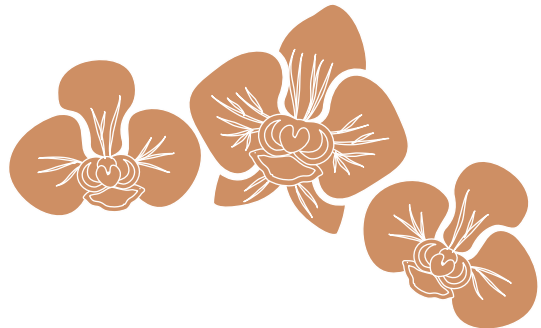
Sister Lydia Aba Tetteh joined the Calvary Methodist Church in the late 1960, Sister Lydia Aba Ellis. Being young then, she was very active and participated in various Church activities. She got married in 1972 and had her wedding at the Calvary Methodist Church, officiated by the late Rev. Sagoe.

Sister Lydia Tetteh had to leave Accra to join her husband in Cape Coast. They later relocated to the USA.

After several years of stay in the USA, Sister Lydia returned to Accra and rejoined the Calvary Methodist Church in 2015. She was attached to the Superintendent Minister's class for the aged. Though she could not attend all church activities due to difficulty in walking, she faithfully fulfilled all her obligations to the church and was very devoted. In times when she

could not make it to church, the Minister-in-charge and other members will visit her and administer the Holy Communion to her.

Sister Lydia Tetteh, you have walked closely with your Maker to the end. You have appreciated the goodness of the Almighty by devoting your time and energy to the work of God. May the Almighty God, who you served, grant you eternal rest.





IN HONOUR OF
LYDIA ABA TETTEH





Hymns

MHB 99

1. HOW sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.
3. Dear name! the Rock on which I build,
My shield, and hiding-place,
My never-failing treasury, filled
With boundless stores of grace!

MHB 427

1. Through all the changing scenes of life,
In trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ.
2. Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
With me exalt His name;
When in distress to Him I called,
He to my rescue came.
3. The hosts of God encamp around
The dwellings of the just;
Deliverance He affords to all
Who on His succor trust.

MHB 517

1. Simply trusting every day;
Trusting through a stormy way;
Even when my faith is small,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.
*Trusting as the moments fly,
Trusting as the days go by,
Trusting Him, whate'er befall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.*

2. Brightly doth His Spirit shine
Into this poor heart of mine;
While He leads I cannot fall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.
3. Singing if my way be clear,
Praying if the path be drear;
If in danger, for Him call,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

MHB 525

1. Through the love of God our Saviour,
all will be well.
Free and changeless is his favour,
all, all is well.
Precious is the blood that healed us,
perfect is the grace that sealed us,
strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
all must be well.
2. Though we pass through tribulation,
all will be well.
Ours is such a full salvation,
all, all is well.
Happy, still in God confiding,
fruitful, if in Christ abiding,
holy, through the Spirit's guiding,
all must be well.
3. We expect a bright tomorrow,
all will be well.
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,
'All, all is well.'
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
in our living, in our dying,
all must be well.

MHB 511

1. Begone, unbelief,
My Savior is near,
And for my relief
Will surely appear;
By prayer let me wrestle,
And He will perform;
With Christ in the vessel,
I smile at the storm.
2. Though dark be my way,
Since He is my Guide,
'Tis mine to obey,
'Tis His to provide;
Though cisterns be broken,
And creatures all fail,
The word He hath spoken
Shall surely prevail.
3. His love, in time past,
Forbids me to think
He'll leave me at last
In trouble to sink:
Each sweet Ebenezer
I have in review
Confirms His good pleasure
To help me quite through.

MHB 831

1. Give us the wings of faith to rise
within the veil, and see
the saints above, how great their joys,
how bright their glories be.
2. Once they were mourning here below,
their couch was wet with tears;
they wrestled hard, as we do now,
with sins and doubts and fears.
3. We ask them whence their victory came:
hey, with united breath,
ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,
their triumph to his death.

MHB 589

1. Go, labor on; spend, and be spent;
Thy joy to do the Father's will;
It is the way the Master went;
Should not the servant tread it still?

2. Go, labor on: 'tis not for nought;
Thy earthly loss is heav'nly gain;
Men heed thee, love thee, praise thee not;
The Master praises, what are men?
3. Go, labor on; your hands are weak,
Your knees are faint, your souls cast down;
Yet falter not; the prize you seek
Is near, a kingdom and a crown.

MHB 651

1. 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.
*Angels of Jesus, Angels of light,
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night.*
2. 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.
3. 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.

MHB 976

1. Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
*Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping. A-men.*
2. There the tears of earth are dried,
There its hidden things are clear,
There the work of life is tried
By a juster judge than here.
3. There the penitents, that turn
To the cross their dying eyes,
All the love of Jesus learn
At his feet in Paradise.