

# Gloria Belinda Dua-Sakyi



# Order of Burial Service

## **PART 1**

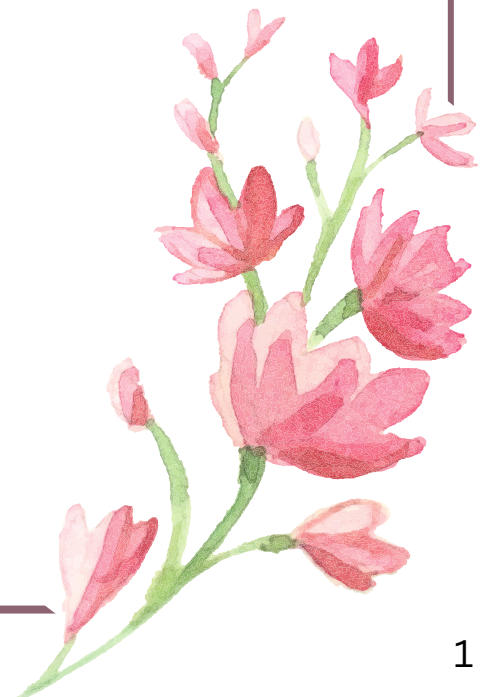
Tributes and family filing past  
*(interspersed with songs)*

## **PART 2**

- Entrance song
- Introit
- Introductory rites & Opening Prayer
- First reading: Wisdom 3:1-9
- Responsorial Psalm: 34
- Gospel: John 14:1-6
- Homily
- Prayer of the faithful
- Offering
- The Lord's prayer
- Biography
- Closing Prayer & Final Commendation

## **PART 3**

Private Burial at Akyem Asafo





*A Fulfilled Life!*



# Biography

Gloria Belinda Augusta May Deborah Yaa Omena Dua-Sakyi, the fourth of eight siblings, was born on May 7, 1953, to Lawyer Kwasi Dua-Sakyi, first Ghanaian Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), and the exceptionally brilliant Matriach Mrs. Rose Akua Oforiwaa Dua-Sakyi. One would wonder why she had so many names – well, her father wanted to give her all the remaining names in the world, maybe because he thought she would be his last child, but instead there are 4 other siblings after her... As such, this long set of names for one person will forever remain a mystery!

Gloria's life was animated, even at birth: the Nigerian midwife who delivered her nicknamed her Tokun'bo, translated to mean "born across the sea" because she was born exactly 9 months after her father returned from a long travel overseas in the UK after qualifying as a Barrister at the Middle Temple post his studies at Oxford University, a journey he made back by sea.

Gloria began her primary education at Achimota Primary, Accra then went on to St. Mary's Primary School in Cape Coast, Experimental School in Accra, and then Christ the King School in Accra.

For her secondary education, she attended Holy Child School, Cape Coast, Ofori Panin School, Akyem Tafo, and proceeded to Wesley Girls High School, Cape Coast for her sixth-form studies.

Gloria (Tokun'bo) then traveled to Nigeria and attended Lagos University, where she graduated with a BSc degree in Mass Communications.

An excellent writer, avid editor and masterful public relations officer, Gloria worked with, among others, the Ghana Red Cross Society, Institute of Chartered Accountants, and finally joined the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) in 2001, where she rose to become Head of Public Relations, a position she held till she retired.

She featured regularly on radio, television and print media as part of her ECG PRO duties and acquitted herself creditably in the process, making numerous friends and acquaintances across all key media in Ghana. Her long-term tenure and excellent work at ECG led to her being a sought-after expert in Public Relations and Mass Communications. As such, in February 2022, Gloria was sworn in as one of the External Committee Members at the Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC), serving on the Stakeholder, Management, and Communication Committee.

# Biography

Gloria was highly active in this work and attended key meetings even two months prior to her departure. This is how committed Gloria was to her work and her art. Gloria was multi-talented and also featured as a lead actor in Theatrical Stage Productions including "The King Must Dance Naked" under the direction of the late celebrated Actor and Director Evans Oma Hunter of Audience Awareness Artistic Organisation. Gloria's impassioned performance and excellent acting skills was a delight to watch, making her the talk of the town. Those were the days...

Gloria loved and thoroughly enjoyed life. She loved all kinds of good music – Soul, Highlife, Funk, Ballads, and especially what is referenced as Old Skool, plus good, fine wine and excellent food! She was always up for a good party. She spent the majority of her time at family parties on the dance floor, where she danced and "did her thing" with total passion and abandon.

Gloria was so savvy that somehow, she managed to make her way into the Ghana Retired Commissioned Officers Club, even though she wasn't a member of the Armed Forces, where she was an Honorary member.

Gloria was an expert chef, a talent she shared with many people. She started cooking at an early age and was so passionate about it that she even had a mark of a burn on her arm to prove it! From Chinese to Indian cuisine, from Moroccan to Chop Better, Gloria was an excellent cook, spent a lot of time in her kitchen, and would always have a dinner table set up for anyone who would come by to eat.

She was full of life, boisterous, compassionate, fiercely loyal and committed to anything she believed in, passionate to a fault. Even as a child, when she stood up to walk, her first steps were running on tip toes, demonstrating her urgency to tackle life.

She left behind her beloved son, Nana Fredua Agyeman.

Sadly, Gloria left us (peacefully in her sleep) on November 7, 2022. She is now with her Maker, and probably cooking up a storm, together with her dearest Mum & Dad in Heaven. We will sorely miss her, but we thank God for the exciting and memorable years we had to spend with her.

RIP Gloria!

RIP Auntie Gloria, aka General, Commander, Aunt Glo, Tokun'bo!



# Mother Dearest





# From Nana Fredna

Mummy, a month and eight days ago, you heard God's whisper, calling you home. You did not want to leave me. I saw your fight and how you held on tight until all your strength was gone. You couldn't hold on any longer and you finally gave your hand to God and slipped away quietly without even saying good-bye. Yes, death is inevitable, but losing you is unfathomably painful. Continuing life without you is terrible... The memories are vivid, and the pain is still as raw as ever!

I cannot find words to explain the void you have left behind. The truth, Mummy, is that it is not possible to quantify the things that I will miss about you. I will miss your incredible sense of humour; Something I have unfortunately acquired... Even on your sick bed, you still tried to maintain your humour. I miss your quirky habits, your words of encouragement at the least opportunity, your early morning and late-night motivational messages and prayer messages, regardless of where I am in the world. Not just to me, but to your loved ones, as well.

I miss hearing you play your favorite 'Old Skool' songs and as a child, whenever I heard them play during Christmas, I knew there was oven grilled chicken following. I am so grateful to you for passing the gift of music to me.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a home in which I had exposure to a wide range of cuisines, books, cultures and people. A home where friends from far and near dined, often on short notice. Due to that, I am able to adapt to almost any setting and connect with people from all over the globe.

Thank you for teaching me, love. To the world, you were a person but to me, you were the world. You made every single birthday of mine a mandatory celebration and that is something I will forever be grateful for. You encouraged me to work hard. Even on dark days, your strength made me realize that I had an angel beside me and that I could overcome any obstacle.

Although we didn't have much, you made sure that I did not lack anything. You made sure I had the best of the best.

How do I thank you for the education and opportunities that I received: formally and informally, and the sacrifices that you made to make them possible?

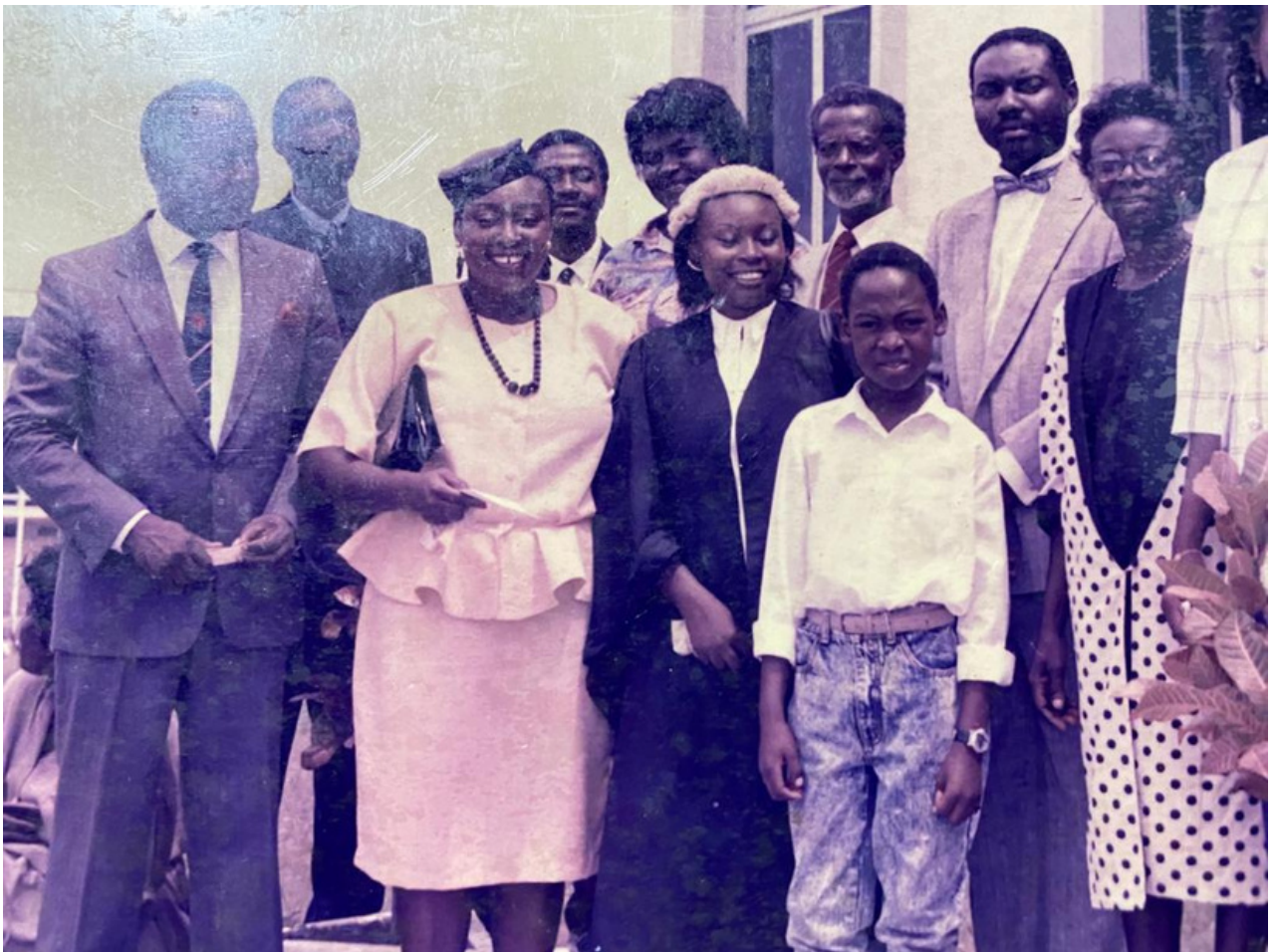
# From Nana Freda

Thank you for always creating an environment in which I was allowed to probe, enquire, and to experiment. Thank you for keeping a home where you always respected my opinion: a rare occurrence, I now realize.

Thank you for the lessons in sharing, caring and learning to give and help others. You were an inspiring soul. Always there for whomever came to you with their troubles. Your home was always open to everyone and your hospitality made them feel important. You were the most loving, humble, compassionate, understanding, family-oriented woman, and one of the most beautiful souls, one could ever meet.

I am going to miss you always Mummy. I love you. God bless you and keep you till we surely meet again.





# From Her Siblings

It's difficult to capture Gloria, whom we affectionately called Tookum, in one little script of a tribute. She was a woman of many parts – complex, yet simple; kind, yet no-nonsense; compassionate, yet no walk over... we could go on and on... Gloria was in a sense, like a blanket – at once warm and nice, then too hot for comfort. When she was in the “warm” state, she was just like Mother Hen, watching out for all and fussing over us to eat all the food she lovingly and copiously dished on our plates! But when she was in her “too hot” state, she reminded us, so much, of our dearly beloved Dad, Kwasi Dua, in his “alarm blow” moments. Look for cover or be ready to be blown off! Hahahahaa! But we loved her, and she loved us. It's just so sad we don't learn to say this to each other enough times as siblings, until we are losing them, or they're gone. Yes gone... It's hard to think Gloria is gone. That, for a period of time, until we meet in heaven, we won't hear her loud laughter, see her rollicking dance moves at family parties, or her commanding voice telling someone to “get outta here”! Each of us siblings have something we want to say or remember about Gloria, some of which we have captured below. Perhaps those snippets would convey how we feel about her passing and what she meant to us.

“Obaa Yaa, christened as Gloria Deborah Belinda May Augusta Yaa Omena Dua-Sakyi, rest in perfect peace. My little sister Tokun'bo, I will miss you.”

**Love, Rosa**

“I can just picture her standing in the kitchen over the stove, cooking one of her favorite meals and loudly singing one of Amakye Dede's songs!”

**Dor**

**An October 2022 WhatsApp chat with Gloria:**

**Chris:** “Maaakyeooo General Sir Madam Sir.”

**Gloria:** “Good morning, Captain. Carry on. Unfortunately, I had a bad night, but Generals are tough so I am hanging in there. Have a Wonderful Day. Blessings Galore”

**Chris:** “Early bird”

**Gloria:** “Yes, but the General is still a General!”

**Chris:** “All correct, Sa!”

“That's the spirit of Gloria. Once a General, always a General!”

**Chris**





# From Her Siblings

“Behind Gloria's feisty demeanor, was a very generous heart. When I was sick with cancer, she gave exceedingly above her means both financially and emotionally. I am sure she's in heaven surrounded by her hamsters, white mice, and dogs – her beloved pets, and the loves of her life. Rest in peace Gloria.”

**Abnaa Nyarkoaa Patricia**

“Miss you dearly big sis. For me, you were the most caring and the kindest person that I ever met on this earth; Auntie Rose is my witness. Thanks for asking me to hug you before you left. It was really a long hug... Don't forget to get in touch, cos I'm all ears. Remember, the night is fine. Till we meet again, Rest well in the Lord.” **Emmanuel**

“MY DEAR SISTER GLORIA, AKA COMMANDER!!! ” Below is what comes to mind when Gloria comes to mind!!! “Fiery, Fearless No-nonsense (Kanawu!!!) ... Compassionate, Generous (to a fault), Principled, Loved to Chill (loved to have a good time- enjoyed enjoying herself) ... Laid back, Edgy, the epitome of Joy and Pain, a Go-getter, Life of the party, (but could also Scatter the party!!) Hard working, Disciplinarian, Conscientious, Sharp witted, Intelligent, Great Sense of Humour, Honest, a Symbol of Integrity, Assertive! A Jekyll and Hyde personality, in one breath she's in attack mode, the next she's the exact opposite: genuinely apologetic, melodramatic too. Her Hard Exterior hid a Soft Interior (soft heart), Loyal (to the core!!!). (Gloria acted in a number of professional theatrical productions and always played her roles with zest, aplomb and total passion!!!) Gloria was an amalgamation of all the above but, unquestionably, Adoring and Adorable. She'll be sorely missed by me and many others!”

GLORIA BELINDA NANA YAA DUA-SAKYI - NO SIZE!!  
DON'T MESS WITH HER OR FIRE WILL BURN YOU!!!  
GET CLOSE TO HER AND LOVE WILL OVERWHELM YOU!!!

FARE THEE WELL, MY DEAR SISTER!!!”

**Carlos**



# From Her Siblings

“Hmmm... I can’t believe she’s gone. The only time Gloria shut her mouth was a day before she passed. That was the day I didn’t hear her say anything... the first time I really wept was when I was leaving her bedside. Is this Gloria – the feisty, fun-loving sister? So quiet? Something’s not right here. But the next day I was back at her bedside, and she was still there, silently acknowledging me with her eye. That’s my sister. She held on till she simply had to let go because I believe the good Lord was calling her to rest. You were Big Sis to me, Aunty Glo, whether you were sharing ‘tooli’ or telling me off! And you know I was never intimidated by your alarm blows because they blew off so quickly! And then followed that sunny side of you that so wonderfully and mysteriously forgot anything had happened!! Farewell sis. I love you, but Jesus loves you best!” **Angela**

When all is said and done, we your siblings can say confidently, “farewell, General. Once a General, always a General!” One day in the by and by, we will all meet at Papa’s banquet and drink heavenly wine.

Da yie  
Nante br3 br3  
Until then, bye, Tookum.







Gloria - Life  
of the Party!









Gloria - A friend  
like No Other!



# From Chobis

To my friend/ sister 'Sisi Glo'

Although we were in the same secondary school, Holy Child School, we got to know each other better when we all started our working careers; you at the Ghana Red Cross and I in the Hospitality sector. We got on well together, you could crack jokes at any given time and had a knack for vividly describing happenings in your office which would have me in stitches with tears rolling down my face.

Our friendship was a crazy- easy going one, candid and true. I can never forget how you enjoyed celebrating your birthdays and woe betide me if I dared to forget - So to avert that you would start reminding me a few weeks ahead of the date 7th May.

'Sisi Glo', you were ridiculously happy in life, so I choose to celebrate your life than to mourn. I'm glad to have known you. A true friend is never gone and becomes like family because of so many memories. It's never easy to say bye-bye, let me just bid you 'farewell 'and continue to rest peacefully in the Lord's bosom.

Maama Choo





# From Holy Child 1970 Year Group

## To our Classmate

Gloria Sakyi was a member of the 1970 Year Group of Holy Child School, Cape Coast, where her other siblings had also been.

A very vivacious lady, she exuded love, energy and simple friendliness towards all.

In fact, when news came about her condition, little did we expect that the inevitable would be her fate. She cracked a joke when one of us called to talk to her and there she was saying “sister, ma ye te s3 aponkye”, to wit “my sister I look like a goat”, sending the mate into such laughter. Gloria would trivialize things when they seemed rather worrying.

She was a good student, fluent in the English Language and a member of the School's Quiz Team to compete with other Schools & Colleges when it was due to do so.

Gloria lived near one other younger HOPSAN to whom she extended such perfect kindness. Even in her illness she called a relation of the lady in the event of this lady's passing.

She invited the Group to her home in Adenta one day, and it was very enjoyable indeed. Gloria was no pretender, she said it as it was.


News of her passing has come rather sadly, and is difficult accept; she was a very happy soul and to think she's no more, is indeed unbelievable. God made us; We belong to him, so our lives are in His hands.

Gloria, Glo, Sonny Boy, Rest in Peace; Till we meet to part no more!









**Thank you for your love, your  
well wishes, your contributions  
and your prayers during this  
difficult time.**

**God Richly Bless You**

**From Gloria's Family**