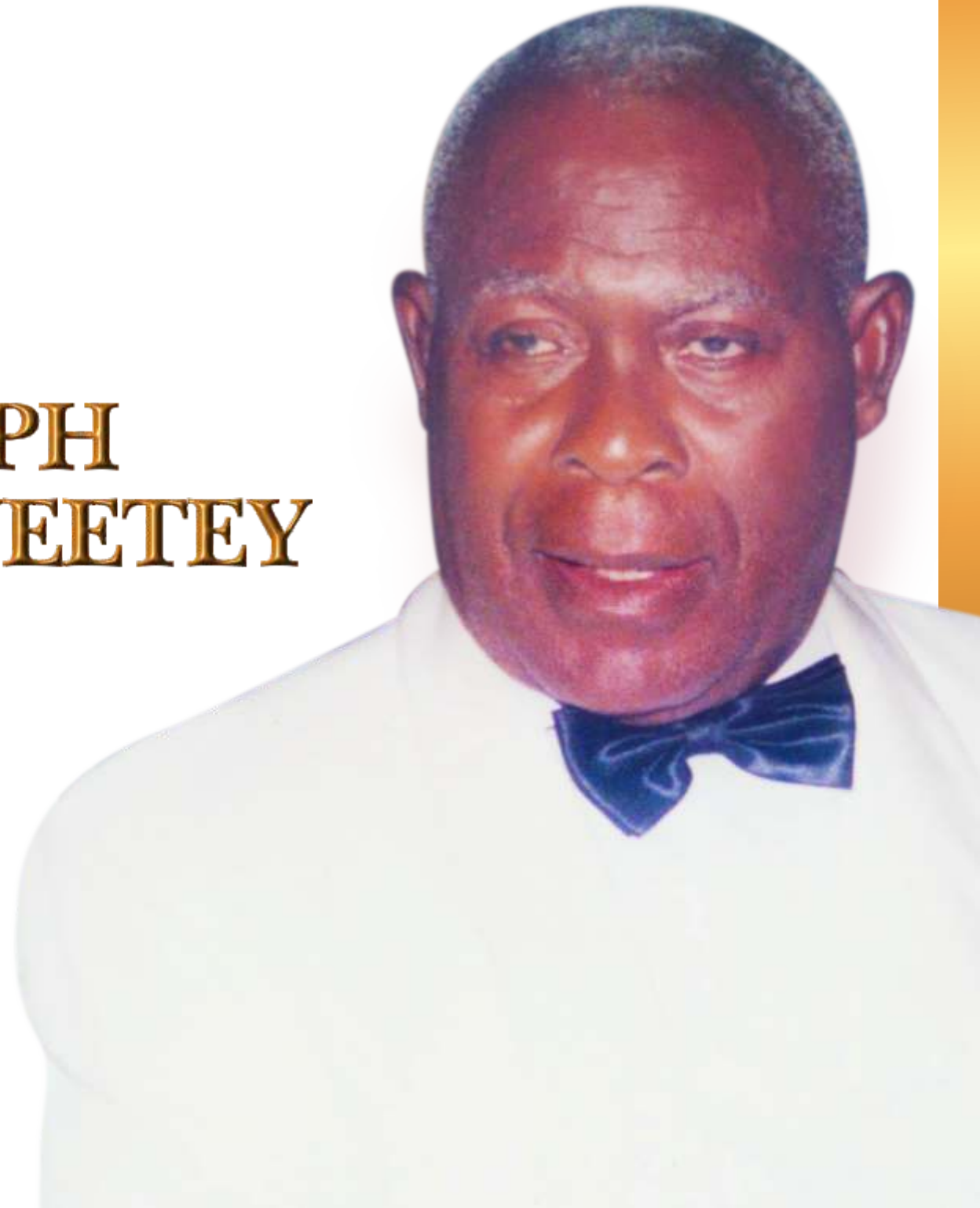


MR. JOSEPH  
ADJETEY ARYEETAY  
(a.k.a. Acheck)

1938 - 2020



# ORDER OF SERVICE

Friday, 20th November, 2020  
Transitions Place, Asore Junction, Haatso

## Part One

Opening Hymn	What A Friend We Have in Jesus
File Past	
Opening Prayer	
Biography/Tributes	
Hymn/Chorus	MHB 251
Scripture Reading	1 Corinthians 15:50-58
Sermon	Rev. Francis Pappoe
Offertory Hymn/ Chorus	MHB 701
Thanksgiving Prayer	Rev. Kweku Stephen
Vote of Thanks/Announcements	Elder Eddie Dsani
Benediction	Rev. Kweku Stephen
Closing Hymn	Ye be to Ebenezer
Recession	Dead March in Saul

## Part Two - Private Burial at Adjeiman

Hymn/Chorus	
Sentences & Exhortation	Rev. Adotei Abrahams
Hymn/Chorus	
Committal & Prayer	Rev. Adotei Abrahams
Hymn/Chorus	
Vote of Thanks	Family Member
Benediction	Rev. Kweku Stephen

## Functionaries

Master of Ceremony	Rev Adotei Abrahams
Officiating Pastors	Rev. Kweku Stephen Rev. Francis Pappoe Rev. Adotei Abrahams
Organists	Deacon Isaac Pappoe David Pinkrah

# BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Joseph Adjete Aryeetey affectionately called Acheck, was born at Obo-Kwashie in the Greater Accra Region on Saturday 24th December 1938, to Emmanuel Charles Kofi Aryeetey of Adzekwei Tsoshishi Divisional Clan, Gbese Traditional Area and Ethel Ohui Sarbah of Tamatoku, Kasseh, Ada. He was the third of eight siblings. Joseph Adjete Aryeetey began his formal education at the Roman Catholic Primary School at Korle Wokon and finished off at St. Joseph Catholic School, Adabraka. He pursued secondary education at St. Augustine's College, Cape Coast. Prior to entering St. Augustine's College, Joseph Adjete Aryeetey joined the Cub Scout Movement and graduated as a full-blown Boy Scout member by the time he completed his secondary education.

He was among the thirty (30) pioneer Officer Cadets that enrolled at the erstwhile Ghana Nautical College in 1960 [now Reginal Maritime University]. The thirty cadets comprised fifteen Engineers and fifteen Navigators. After the first year, the Engineering student-population dropped to nine as captured in the '1960 Cadets' picture below. He finished off his formal schooling at the Charles Trevelyan College [now Newcastle College] and was awarded the Ordinary National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering. He began his seafaring career as a Mechanical Technician at the shipyards of Swan Hunter and Wigham Richardson, UK.

From 1962 to 1997, the hardworking, self-motivated Joseph Adjete Aryeetey plied his trade as a Marine Engineer, serving on marine vessels of Ghanaian (Black Star Line), German, Danish and Singaporean origin. His responsibilities included Monitoring and Controlling of Hydraulic equipment, Lifting Derricks, Stowing Ramps and Hydraulic Steering Gears.

Joseph Adjete Aryeetey read everything and anything; and learnt languages easily. He was a polyglot who could read, write and speak English, Ga, Twi, Danish and some German. He was one of a few strong advocates for maintaining the purity of spoken Ga. He loved life and music (especially Louis Armstrong's pieces).

In his youthful days, Joseph Adjete Aryeetey was a skillful footballer and swimmer. Both skills served to save his life on many occasions during his seafaring days, when sheer strength and dexterity were required.

For many years, Joseph Adjete Aryeetey was a devout Catholic and served Mass at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Korle Wokon. On grounds of principle, when he felt that in the allocation of certain food-aid items he had not been treated fairly, he quit the Catholic Church and joined the Church of Christ [Spiritual Movement], Akoto Lante, where he worshipped and participated in all activities including end-of-month all-night services until his final call-up.

Joseph Adjete Aryeetey devoted his post-retirement life to keenly participating in activities of the 1957 St Augustine's Past Students Union [APSU 57] to which he belonged. He also involved himself with customary business of his patrilineal family at Adjeiman; as well as the matrilineal Nii Ayikwei Sewuhu Family line of Ahumka, Atukpai.

Joseph Adjete Aryeetey was married to the late Florence Sylvia Nana Afua Kwakwaba Aryeetey [nee Brown] of Osu-Blogodo who predeceased him a year earlier. He is survived by two sons (Cyril Nii Adjei (USA); Joseph Larbi-Mensah Aryeetey (Enterprise Insurance Group, Accra); three daughters (Naa Larbiede, (Adjeiman Manye); Ethel Sylvia Larbiede Dotse-Atsutse (Southampton, UK); and Emma Larbiorkor Ankrah (Paintsil, Paintsil & Co., Osu, Accra) and seventeen grandchildren (Derek Adjete Adjei, Julian Adziete Adjei, David Adzokwei Adjei, Alice Adjeley Adjei; Emmanuel Adjete Aryeetey, Liquenda Adjeley Aryeetey, Alfonso Adziete Brown-Aryeetey, Yael Adjeley Aryeetey; Harrison Hadzide, Perpetual Hadzide; Derry Delali Dotse-Atsutse, Darren Deladem Dotse-Atsutse, Daniel Delator Mawuena Dotse-Atsutse; Jude Nii Kojo Ankrah, Joel Nii Addoquaye Ankrah, Jayden Oko Ankrah and Janelle Akweley Abena-Nimo Ankrah).

# BIOGRAPHY

Joseph Adjete Aryeetey was a strong-willed person. He battled ill-health including challenges with his prostate, a mild stroke, blinding cataracts and gout. Having travelled across the world and experienced the various facets of the changing scenes of life, Joseph Adjete Aryeetey's outlook had become more sage-like and accepting of the existence of a Supreme Being who owns the world and rules in the affairs of men.

Indeed, aware of this incontrovertible fact of the existence and presence of God, Joseph Adjete Aryeetey finished his race victorious in Christ. Hours before he passed away on his sick bed at the LEKMA Hospital, with labored breath and un-assisted, he prayed fervently to his maker. He passed away in his sleep before dawn on Saturday 15th August 2020.

That fateful Saturday when Joseph Adjete Aryeetey's mortal remains was being transported to the Police Hospital Mortuary for autopsy, showers of rain burst out and serenaded the hearse from the frontage of the La Veterinary Hospital to the gate of the Police Hospital mortuary; and in the distance, if one listened carefully, Bob Marley's 'There's a Natural Mystic blowing in the Air' could be heard.





# TRIBUTES

## SIBLINGS

Our brother Adjetej was one of three sons among his father's eight children. He was the apple of his mother's eye, and no expense was spared to feed, clothe and school him. He had a special suit sewn by his mum. When thieves broke into our home and stole the suit, he was so angry he naively, at the time, asked his mum to show him where to find the thief to enable him retrieve his suit. Growing up, the fact that Adjetej was brilliant was not in question, because the evidence was there for all to see. He was very studious and therefore knowledgeable, and took the liberty to impart the little knowledge he had acquired by organizing classes for his siblings and cousins some of whom were older than him. We recall with nostalgia, the efforts the Reverend Father in the Roman Catholic Primary School made to make a Roman Priest out of him because of his sharp wit, but that was not to be because his late dad had other ideas for his son. He wanted Adjetej to grow up into a responsible adult, marry and give him grandchildren in future.

Adjetej loved good food and would do anything to satisfy his palate. We recall with mirth how he sang and danced on one occasion when he and his cousin John returned from school very hungry, and were told that his elder sister had prepared palm-nut soup. He preferred to spend the last day of school popularly referred to as "our day" at home rather than in school, so that he could, all by himself, soak gari and enjoy it with black-pepper (shito) and Tinapa (Geisha), to his heart's delight. Adjetej was serviceable too. He would do back-breaking, nauseating house work without a care in the world and efficiently too. The older sister used to run a restaurant known as "Dicks" and anytime he returned from school, Adjetej would ask the sister to take a breather while he took up doing all the house chores over the week-end.

How proud we were of our seaman-brother whose generous nature and sense of duty touched all and sundry around him. He would endeavor to get everyone a gift and spared no expense in supporting those who needed fees to be paid and others interested in learning one trade or the other. That was the kind of brother we had, always thinking about other people. When our forebears and other elders of the family passed away, Adjetej effortlessly assumed the role of one of the 'elders' of the family on both his patrilineal and matrilineal sides without fuss. He took family duties very seriously and was there for everyone. With his generous nature and sense of duty he endeavoured to attend all family events, if he could help it. He ensured that he knew almost all family members both close and distant by name. Adjetej worked hard to earn himself an enviable title of respect in family matters. We will certainly miss his counsel. Today as he parts company with us, we find ourselves left in the dark, desolate and in mourning. The consolation however, is that no one lives unto himself or forever on this mundane earth. At an enviable age of 82, one can only thank the good Lord for granting him this length of time on this earth. The good book, namely the Bible tells us that 3 scores and ten is enough for us all. Therefore, if in the case of our brother, the Good Lord has deemed it fit to add a dozen more years, we have no choice than to say "Thank You Lord" for taking him this far.

Our dear Adjetej, may your generous heart and friendly spirit find absolute peace in the bosom of the Lord Almighty. WJ OJOGBAA.



# TRIBUTES

## CHILDREN

Love leaves memories no one can steal, but death leaves painful scabs and scars that stay on without relief. We least expected you to pass away so soon after Mum's death. This double tragedy within a year of each other has rudely opened our eyes to our innocence and naivety about death and its ways.

How do we get over a person like you who has been there for us even before we became aware of ourselves? The pain of losing you so suddenly is excruciating, but the thought of the alternative being a whole Acheck, bedridden, in constant pain and dejection is less preferred; and so devastated and heartbroken, we say Let your Will, not ours be done, Lord.

In paying tribute to you, Dad, we genuinely feel words are not enough, it's indeed difficult to put a lifetime on a piece of paper because it's so limited. For us the true measure of a man is neither his material wealth nor vain-glorious power and fame, but rather, the love he gives; how selflessly he shares whatever he can to help others; how consistently he lifts up those around him with kind words, compliments, and words of exhortation. This you did and more:

You were a **JOVIAL** person who loved to crack jokes and tell stories to make people laugh and feel at home. Indeed, growing up you gave us all pet names: "Cyril Crow, Richard Dada (of blessed memory), Joe Pino, Princess and "Babylast" which made us the envy of our school mates and peers. Having been born in an epoch when fathers were to be feared, we deem it very lucky that we had a father who was friendly to every Tom, Dick and Harry and had no intentions to lord it over any one.

We are yet to meet anyone as **OPTIMISTIC** as our dad. Nothing could put him down. For him day and night; lack and abundance; and sadness and joy, are two sides of the same coins and therefore, nothing would stay the way it was forever. He understood these principles and looked forward with hope for a brighter and better day every day.

Being a Seafarer, Daa learnt and grew to be **SELF-SUFFICIENT**, he did almost everything by himself and even in his old age, his ill-health was not a hindrance to him. He refused to be immobilized. He was like a cork in water. On countless occasions, he will arrive at our work places or homes without asking for directions to assist the drivers of the vehicle conveying him to and fro. When we worried about the possibilities of him getting lost, he will respond with a chuckle that he had the map of all vicinities in Accra in his head. He was not fussy when it came to food, he will eat according to the season though he had his favourites. He embraced frugality and lived simply in every aspect of his life.

He was **EMPATHETIC** to all. It was as if he could read minds in the way his responses to people's unvoiced needs were usually spot-on. He would literally share everything he has with everyone including total strangers. This became abundantly clear when he brought in total strangers' home and gave them the essential things needed in life.

He was a father to many and paid the school fees of many. He also blessed all with gifts whenever he returned from his travels overseas. We recall that back in primary school, we were some of the first pupils to wear "Kayaas" "what we call jelly shoes now. We even had a toy intranet back in the 80's and could call each other from one side of our room to the other. We also had a doll who could walk and talk. It was really fun for us and we remain grateful and comforted knowing how much he positively affected our lives and those of others. His love knew no bounds, he loved us, our friends, all relations both maternal and paternal, in-laws etc. The love Daa spread on this earth continues to grow and will live on. He loved all of our family pets and personally fed them with "Keta school boys and gari. Indeed, he loved them and they seemed to trust and like him too. Animals are known to have a strong instinct for a good person and that is the ultimate measure of any human being.

# TRIBUTES

## CHILDREN

But perhaps, Dad's finest quality was that he was a **PEACEMAKER**. He had time and patience and an inherent ability to listen. Anyone at all, irrespective of his/her age, could share anything at all with Daa. Often, he will calm you down and advice you to do what you Feel and Believe is Right; "Follow your Heart, and you can't go wrong". It is not a coincidence that he was born a day before Christ's birth because he was the embodiment of peace. Although sometimes, his actions were misconstrued by others, we knew Daa had a heart of gold, and it's incredible to see just how boundless his reach has been. His favorite scripture was Proverbs 6:16-19. We recall how he would take his time and share at almost every family gathering and will stress on the verse 19 ***"The Lord hates... a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community"***. He abhorred family members who sow seeds of discord with a passion.

Finally, we believe we can say without fear or favour that our Dad exuded **HUMILITY** in his utterances, bearing and human relations. Though he would not shy away from calling a spade a spade, he did so with all Humility. He showed maturity, wisdom and inner strength in all he did. He was a leader; a true family man; an exemplary human being.

Your Legacy will live on in our hearts, Acheck, we love you dearly. Rest in Perfect peace.

Cyril, Larbi Mensah and Larbiorkor



# TRIBUTES

## CHILDREN

***Then I heard a voice from Heaven say, “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on” “Yes” says the Spirit, “they will rest from the for their deeds will follow them”. Rev. 14:13.***

It was with shock and pain when I received the news of your demise on Saturday, 15th August, 2020. I was celebrating the Ga Homowo Festival that day and the news came to me as a big shock.

“Daa” as I affectionately called him was very nice and sociable and a strict disciplinarian too. Losing a father is one of the most painful experiences a heart can know. You gave birth to us and nurtured us into responsible adults. A great advocate of your family. Being a Seafarer, you spent most of your working life outside the shores of Ghana, but made sure you spent quality time when you returned to the country on vacation with your family. You constantly told us of your experiences in Europe and the USA.

Dad was an epitome of a responsible father who made sure we had the best of education to become responsible and respectable persons in society. Your love for me was spectacular and peculiar. Until your demise, you remained my first point of contact for advice and counsel when issues erupted. Despite your intolerable nature towards mediocrity, you had a wonderful relation with everyone, with no exhibition of favoritism. You treated my siblings and I equally with a fair share of care, respect, discipline and morality. You made sure you apportioned an equal amount of time for the entire family especially, the SANAA family of Adjeiman.

The vacuum created in our lives by your absence can never be filled. Daa words cannot express how broken your demise has left me. I bid you farewell and God's blessings as you embark on this journey of eternal rest. I cannot say my father was a saint but like every mortal being, he had his short comings. If he did step on some sensitive toes or wronged anybody consciously or unconsciously during his journey on earth, we plead that he may be forgiven for our sake. The saying goes “To err is human and to forgive is divine” I thank all who made my Dad what he was.

Daa Acheck, we pray that the Almighty God gives you eternal peace. Fare thee well. Rest in peace until we meet again. Adieu.

**Naa Larbiede Blikan I, Queen of Adjeiman; (a.k.a. Grace Larbiede Aryeetey)**





# TRIBUTES

## CHILDREN

### Dad

He never looks for praises  
He's never one to boast  
He just goes on quietly working for those he  
loves the most  
His dreams are seldom spoken  
His wants are very few  
And most of the time his worries  
Will go unspoken too  
He's there.. A firm foundation  
Through all our storms of life  
A sturdy hand to hold to  
In times of stress and strife  
A true friend we can turn to  
When times are good or bad  
One of our greatest blessings,  
The man that we call Dad



Daddy, you were God's earthly representation of a father's love. (My Acheck baby) as I affectionately called you. I was indeed your Princess as you fondly called me. You were a generous man not only by your words, but also by your deeds and actions. I recall when I gave your laptop to my friend, I was so scared you would be upset with me, but to my utmost surprise you said with a chuckle "Princess your father is a generous man, but I think your generosity is too much". Dad, you were my first love and soul mate. Every daughter needs a daddy like you. I feel extremely blessed to have had a dad like You. My love for you was unquestionable and never ending. You loved me so much that you named me after your mother 'Ethel'. Even when I tried to control you a little just like your mother, your eyes just beamed with laughter and love. Nobody dared to speak ill of you when I was around. Not even my mother, because I would quickly jump to your defence even if you were wrong. I honestly wish I was by your side as you took your last breath on this earth.

On the day before you passed you were quiet harsh to me when I called you, you did not even call me princess. To be honest, I was a bit perplexed, shocked and saddened. However, I still told you to go to the hospital and that I would call you later to check on you. On that fateful day the 15th of August 2020 when I was told you had passed on to be with your Maker my world fell apart. I sensed something was wrong even before I was informed. For know apparent reason, I had already been crying in the very early hours of that morning. I was very restless. I believe there is a strong bond between a father and a daughter if they can feel each other's pains before it manifests physically. That was the kind of bond I had with you dad. I love you dearly and even in death I love you more. I am extremely grateful to you God for giving me this man I proudly call my dad, You were my rock and confidant, I will forever miss you and cherish your memory, my heart is heavy but I am consoled by the fact that you are with your Heavenly Father. Thank you for all the fond memories, sleep well my beloved father, I miss you terribly but I know life must go on so I'll keep plodding on. I love you forever my Acheck baby, my king.

**Ethel Sylvia Larbiede Dotse-Atsutse**

# TRIBUTES

## GRANDCHILDREN

Hey grandpa this is Julian, the day I heard you were gone was a very difficult day for me. We may not have had the closest bond or thousands of stories I could share with everyone today but you played a big role in my life. As a kid, some of my favorite memories were when my grandpa would call to wish me a happy birthday or see how we were doing. Every year I would ask my parents when am I going to go meet my grandpa, when am I going to finally see him. It wasn't until 2017 when I finally made my journey to Ghana to meet my grandparents for the first time. The conversations that we shared about value and family will stay forever in my mind. Whiles, you were here you accomplished more than anyone I can name on this Earth. You had an amazing career and a beautiful family that will forever love you. You meant a lot to my dad and I can feel the pain he is going through right now, but even though you are gone we will stand strong and do it for you day by day. The moment we met is always going to be a special memory in my life. Even though it hurts a lot I know that you and grandma both are in a better place together looking over us all. I will forever love you LONG LIVE GRANDPA.

**Julian Adjei**

Grandpa, having left this earthly plane, we miss your wisdom, the many years of experience you shared with us and the pure love and understanding with which you handled us. You brought warmth, happiness, wisdom, and love to every soul that you interacted with. It has been said that, it is only great fathers that get the promotion to become grandfathers. We are lucky that we have you, grandpa as one to be counted among the great ones. Your death has brought us great sadness because we have lost a person who has always been there to love us and take care of us when we are not feeling okay. Even though your sudden death saddens us, we will be forever grateful that you made our childhood memorable. We are grateful for having such a wonderful grandpa like you.

Yaa wo ojogbaan. Snr. Adjetey.

**Emmanuel Adjetey Aryeetey, Liquenda Adjeley Aryeetey,  
Alfonso Adziete Brown-Aryeetey, Jael Adjeley Aryeetey**



Long live my Grandpa. He was a strong, intelligent, grateful person. Just like grandma. Even though I never met him I can tell he was a good person because of my dad. May his light shine upon his loved ones' lives and inspire them to keep going when times are rough. May they be encouraged to go far while they keep him close. He surely is there always with Grandma by his side.

**Alice Adjei**



Mr. Joseph Aryeteey also known as Acheck is a very respected, fun loving and spiritual person who was always there for us. People called him Mr. Aryeteey but we called him Grandpa. Grandpa was a very disciplined man who liked things to be done correctly. His love and passion for us all was overwhelming and he was our mentor. We remember vividly the last time we saw him, because it was one of the most beautiful days in our lives as grandchildren of Grandpa. We had visited him at Osu, and as usual we had a long talk. We spoke about everything and he advised us and encouraged us to never give up and assured us that everything will work out for our good if we stayed faithful and worked hard at our dreams. After this lengthy chat, Grandpa blessed us, little did we know that Grandpa was saying goodbye to us. Words are not enough to capture our gratitude for the good things Grandpa did for us. We have to say a painful farewell to Grandpa even though we wish he could have stayed longer on earth with us. We will miss you Grandpa and we want to say we love you and you will forever be in our hearts. Grandpa yaawo din, Grandpa may your gentle soul rest in Perfect Peace.

**Harrison & Perpetual Hadzide**



# TRIBUTES

## GRANDCHILDREN

In December 2018 we visited Ghana for Grandpa's birthday. It was amazing we got to see our grandparents, aunties, uncles and cousins.

**Delali:** "My favourite memory with grandpa was when he taught me how to cut sugarcane and how they would sell it in the market, Rest in peace Grandpa."

**Deladem:** Although we did not get to see you as much as we wanted to it was a blessing to see you and speak with you, we love and cherish you so much grandpaa.

**Delator:** "My favourite memory with grandpa was when I ate sugarcane with him and chatting with him, Rest in peace."

Rest in peace grandpa we love you. You will always be in our hearts.

**Derry Delali Dotse-Atsutse, Darren Deladem Dotse-Atsutse,  
Daniel Delator Mawuena Dotse-Atsutse**



Our Grandpa always had a smile on his face when we were near him. He was a kind old man. He liked to tell us stories about some of the places he visited as a sailor. He even began to teach us Danish; He was worried that we could not speak Ga as well as he expected and so he always spoke to us in Ga and required us to respond in Ga. When our Brother, Oko led his class to win the inter-houses Tug-of-war competition at school, Grand Pa was over-joyed, He kept the recording of the event on his phone and played it back over and over again to himself, and to others. We can easily picture him in his lazy chair at home in Osu, laughing at something or entertaining others with jokes and stories.

We also recall a day when we visited him at Osu, and met him scrambling to recover his crabs that had escaped from the pot in which they were being kept into the bathroom, others hid in the kitchen and the store-room. Grandpa kept hollering at us to help catch the crabs without getting hurt. It was such fun working with him to retrieve the escaped crabs. We also recall that when we were very young, Grandpa kept a lot of cats, which he lovingly and dutifully fed with kenkey and fish in the evenings.

The very last time we saw him was in July when he came over to our house to barber his hair. Whilst our daddy was clipping his beard, grandpa was also being shaved "sakora" by our mummy. We loved it because we thought it was a wonderful family gathering at the time.

Little did we know that it would be the very last time that we would ever get to speak with him again. We pray that God grants him eternal rest in his bosom.

**Jude Nii Kojo Ankrah, Joel Nii Addoquaye Ankrah,  
Jayden Oko Ankrah and Janelle Akweley Abena-Nimo Ankrah**













# TRIBUTES

## NEPHEWS AND NIECES

***The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart, and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace, they rest in their beds, each one walking in his rightness (Isaiah 57:1-2)***

Yes! The sailors were brave while the Captain of the ship prevailed at the turmoil of the ocean. But Alas! While the storm and turmoil still waged strong, the captain was swept away from the deck. The sailors were left with the brave, ardent and gentle captain. Therefore, in the nature of things, man is bound to be a defaulter, and so in that same nature, man stands in need of forgiveness. This all too soon departure of Uncle Adjetey or Uncle Acheck as we affectionately called him demand the benefits of the above situation. We the living must be all forgiving to everybody, as we expect our Lord to forgive us.

We need to ask for forgiveness for those who in diverse ways have had their toes treaded upon by our late Uncle and father before he goes into the soil. We are left speechless and shocked as we least expected the sudden exist of our great Uncle.

Uncle Acheck was an uncle of his own right and he had his own opinion about most things and was not afraid to express it. Your vibrant soul, your forgiving nature, your tolerant being and your rich experience of life's turbulence make us to remember many lessons you taught us. We remember your welcoming smiles, we remember the warm hugs, we remember sharing your food with us, we remember the exotic stories of your sea adventures and remember how sharp you always looked when you dressed up. You taught us that bitterness and pain were temporary elements that could never overpower love and that living in harmony was the key to achieving significant progress in life.

We have lost a great gem. They say a great tree has fallen when a great man departs but we say a great seed has been planted and your fruits are about to blossom and affect other lives the way you did. You lived a life full of energy and positive attitudes. You are gone today but we still feel your presence within us and we feel robbed and betrayed by the fact that you won't be here anymore. Uncle Acheck, we can go on and on with our eulogy, but we know our maker and keeper of our souls knows best.

With deepest sorrow we finally say:

God saw you were getting tired,  
And a cure was not to be,  
So he put his Arms around you,  
And whispered "come to me;  
Although we love you dearly  
We could not let you stay,  
A golden precious heart stopped breathing,  
God broke our hearts to prove to us,  
He only takes the best,  
Although your leaving causes pain and sorrow.



# TRIBUTES

## IN-LAWS

My father-in-law, a remarkable man who loved his children and grandchildren died on 15th August, 2020. My heart is broken but I console myself in the fact that death takes the body. God takes the soul. Our mind holds the memory. Our heart keeps the love and our faith let us know we will meet again. Your death is an incalculable lasting blow to me.

You have been a blessing from the start and I will miss you so much. As much as it hurts I will walk down memory lane so that I can run into you. Rest in the arms of the angels my dear father in law. I am proud of many things in life but nothing beats being your daughter in law. I know heaven has gained an angel.

Rest in perfect peace!! Yaa wɔ jogbaan.

Joana Apronti



***Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord [Romans 8:35,37–39].***

I was but a stranger who joined the family through marriage. Yet it felt like I had not left home. Your love and affection extended to all. Accepting me in your household was the greatest love of all. I never for a single moment felt like an In-Law. On the contrary, I felt like a daughter. I always felt at ease around you. Your words brought me assurance and peace like that of a father to a daughter. You have been a prop in my side through the ups and downs of marriage life. You were there to guide me consistently. You were the lost father I never had. Words cannot describe my despair and sadness to see you leave this earthly plane. But I am comforted by the fact that you have gone to a better place. I shall keep your words of advice close to my heart in this difficult time. Thank you and fare thee well. Rest in Perfect peace.

Ruth Coffie



***Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also [John 14:1–3].***

I enjoyed spending time with my father-in-law. He knew how to keep a conversation going on for hours with interesting anecdotes and tit-bits. In his company time stood still, and for a precious moment of time, you could forget all your worries and anxieties while with him. I always looked forward to spending time with him. Our conversation found another topic for discussion when my wife and I relocated to the UK, and Da, found out that we resided close to the City of Liverpool. On my business visits back home, when I visited him, he will regale me with stories about his escapades in Liverpool, during his days as a Sailor, whenever their ship docked in Liverpool. In Da's company, the expression "you will never walk alone" found its truest manifestation. We had mutual trust and respect for each other, which allowed the old man to share some of his most intimate thoughts with me. I loved and cherished the thought that I had earned such level of trust with him. My father-in-law was a dyed-in-the-wool optimist. Nothing could put him down or discourage him. He was always full of life, good cheer and expectant of happy days ahead. Whenever I think of him the expression "Never say die until the bones are rotten" pops up in my mind's eye. I am saddened that I never got the chance to say goodbye to him. He will be missed sorely, but I pray that He finds the peace he spread all around him in the bosom of the Almighty God.

Perry Dotse-Atsutse



# TRIBUTES

## IN-LAWS

Da, as I used to call him was my friend. We are both saturday-borns. We both studied in Augusco, of course at different stages of life, we both like to say it as it is and he loved my culinary skills. He said so himself. He told me the very first time I was introduced to him as a prospective son-in-law that he already knew me from my media practice from Radio Univers, Joy FM, through to TV3 and Citi FM. I was ecstatic. Right there and then, the premarital doubts every bachelor goes through left me. I knew right away that with a father-in-law like Acheck, my wife-to-be had grabbed me 'hook, line and sinker'. On the day I got traditionally married to his youngest daughter, Emma, some fifteen years ago, he said to me: Francis, there are only two women of your wife's pedigree. One has already been taken. The regrets will be all yours if you allow yourself to lose what you have now. That was it. My Father-in-Law had finished advising me on my marriage journey! After this compelling encounter, my ear kept ringing all the way from Kokomlemle to Kaneshie where I lived.

Acheck was the party-maker. No ice was too cold or too hard for him to break. He was down-to-earth, dependable, kindhearted and fun to be with. This was a man who would offer his support even at the risk of his health, reputation and finances. His presence at 'family' gatherings always benefitted from his wit, charm, joviality and conviviality. He had an amazing, amusing and infectious chuckle that preceded every exciting encounter or adventure he decided to share. His mere presence alone was sufficient to convert an otherwise dull gathering into a pleasant fellowship. His was a mind committed to openness; a personality who was not deterred by the pretentiousness or snootiness of others, nor the inexorable vagaries of life. He took the good, the bad and the ugly circumstances that life presented with stoic practicality and equal aplomb.

Beneath the man's macho façade was a heart sensitive to the familial, social and spiritual needs of everybody he came into contact with. Yet, he was very independent-minded and strong-willed. He seldom changed his mind after he had decided on one cause of action or the other. He detested being challenged, contradicted or debated for too long in a conversation. It upset him very much; and when he was irked, he was an earful to listen to with his cheeky ripostes and expletives. He had little patience for suffering fools gladly. Acheck will say the things people are too inhibited to say effortlessly without batting an eye-lid.

Over the years, the man kept announcing that he could not see, yet he always found his way, each and every time, the time of day notwithstanding, to whatever venue, function or gathering he had been invited to. This was a matter we teased him with constantly. One wondered where he found the energy and motivation to keep up. I will especially miss him for the kindness of his thoughts and expressions of love and affection towards my children; his grandchildren. He never could have enough of them when we found ourselves in his company. Having had the privilege of sharing his company on many occasions in the last 15 years, I noticed that he loved to sing Harry Belafonte's 1956 Banana Boat Song, when we sat in companionable silence, any time he came to visit:

Day o! Daylight come and me wanna go home

...

Work all night on a drink a rum  
(Daylight come and me wanna go home)  
Stack banana till the morning come  
(Daylight come and me wanna go home)



21-gun salute to you Friend, Father-in-Law, Senior APSU, Sailor and Gentleman. You have run a full race and served your time. Now enter into the home of your Heavenly Father with thanksgiving. May your empathetic soul rest in perfect peace.

**Francis Prince Ankrah**



# TRIBUTES

## BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN-LAW

***I have fought the good fight. I have run the race and finished it. I have kept the faith and now remains for me is the crown of life that the righteous Judge will give me" (2 Tim. 4:4-8)***

We are lost for words and still struggle to come to terms with the fact that we will no longer see you again. Our hearts bleed and mourn the demise of our brother-in-law, Mr. Joseph Adjetey Aryeetey also known as "Acheck"

You were very generous, you showed great love to us and our children and even extended this love to outsiders, including needy children whose fees you were so willing and ready to pay.

Your involvement in our family affairs, was superb. You were highly cooperative and willingly contributed, as and when the need arose, to undertake any renovation or face-lifting work in our family house, where you lived with your wife, Florence at Osu. In fact, you established a strong relationship with us and we benefited immensely from your love.

For over 30 to 35 years we consistently spent Easter, Christmas and the New Year as well as Birthdays together. We'd all turn up in our family house at Osu or the Arnumu's place at Otswe and have a wonderful time. We deeply admired your easy-going lifestyle, prayerful personality and your great faith in God.

Mr. Aryeetey, as you enter your new heavenly home, may you rest in the perfect peach which you truly deserve. You are in a better place now. We thank God Almighty for your life.

Sleep well in the bosom of the Maker, till we meet again. We salute you. Amen.



# TRIBUTES

## NIECES AND NEPHEWS IN - LAW [THE BROWNS]



Lead us, O Father, to Thy heavenly rest,  
However rough or steep the path may be,  
Through joy or sorrow, as Thou deemest best,  
Until our lives are perfected in Thee. Amen.  
William Henry Burleigh, 1812-71 (MHB 613 Stanza 4)



It is the way of men to depart this world when the LORD calls. But what agony it is to the living (family and friends) for one to exit barely a year after the demise of one's wife! Daddy – Uncle Acheck: that is the plight you've plunged us into, having been ill but for a moment! We have known you as a seasoned seaman and astute conversationalist who was equally at home with adults and children alike. Having travelled so widely, you 'spoke with cosmopolitan largeness of ideas', holding everybody spellbound by the fluidity of your talks. These range from your exploits at sea and in foreign lands to profound religion, especially, as regards Christianity. Added to your conversation was your keen sense of humour with an infectious smile to match, which were so captivating that children, including your lovely grandchildren, were saddened when they had to leave your presence.

Having led a worldly life for the better part of your life, it was a delight to see you in your fervency for CHRIST, which was demonstrated in your humaneness towards others and ample participation in church activities even on weekdays! It was so uplifting to hear you pray in Ga and perform the customary functions of 'shiah onukpa' (family head) in the few instances of celebrations – and funerals. In spite of the many children around you with their usual naughtiness, hardly would you express anger. And even if you did, you were quick to 'let go', never allowing the sun to go down on your wrath! (Ephesians 4:26). Daddy, 'Unco' Acheck; we hope to see you in the GLORIOUS PRESENCE!

YAA WO JOGBAA. REST IN PERFECT PEACE.

### “PERSONAL SECRETARY”, IVY ARNUMU

We called you Daddy, because you treated us as such, you were a father-figure to us. Your interactions with us was good. We fondly remember your years as a seaman and how you lavishly showered us with different gifts of clothes, shoes and all the goodies one could think about any time you returned home from a trip abroad. You were an excellent uncle with a great sense of humour who loved us just as you loved your own children. Our interactions with you as our Aunt's husband during your journey on earth proved to us that you genuinely loved us. You cherished and cared for us unconditionally. One thing I loved about you was that you were not a hypocrite. You called a spade a spade. You made me your “personal secretary” right from my childhood days until your final call-up.

On that fateful day at LEKMA Hospital, if I had known that, that was your last day on earth I would have listened to what you wanted to tell me. You will truly be missed and remembered for your love and care. The vacant feeling your death has created cannot be filled easily, but we are comforted by the fact that you have gone to your creator, where there is joy and peace forever.

Rest in Peace Daddy.



# TRIBUTES

## CHILDREN OF UNCO ROGER

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you never went alone,  
for a part of us went with you, the day God took you home.

A million times we miss you, A million times we cried,  
If love could have saved you, you never would have died.

To the grave you travel, Our flowers placed with care,  
No-one knows the heartache, as we turn to leave you there.

If tears could build a stairway, and memories could make a lane,  
we would walk right up to heaven, and bring you home again.

We love you Unco Acheck!! sleep well in heaven with the angels.  
Our Auntie, "Sister Auntie" is waiting patiently to receive you unto eternity!

Even though you left us suddenly, God has a special place prepared for you.

Fare Thee Well Unco Acheck!

# TRIBUTES

## CHILDHOOD FRIEND JOSEPH K. ARNUMU (A.K.A. MAC JOE)

***There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven; a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot. Ecclesiastes 3:12***

A true friend is a gift of God who always stays with you and guides you to be on the right path and prevents you from falling prey to unfortunate circumstances.

I have known Acheck since our childhood days. We both served Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Korle Wokon. We served at the time when the first Catholic Bishop of Accra by name Bishop A. A. Noor was the head. Growing together we ran errands for the Reverend Fathers and got their vestments ready for them to put on before mass was said.

We went to different schools but spent most of our time together. Growing up was fun because we went to all the interesting places together. Though we worked at different places one thing always brought us close as young men and that was having fun and visiting places of mutual interest and just hanging out.

One thing I would never forget and which I disclosed at my 80th Birthday get-together to friends and family was Acheck's purposeful role in getting me hooked up to my wife, Aggie so that both of us ended up marrying two blood sisters. This of course, drew us closer to each other as we grew up well into our retirement years. We were now brothers, not friends, and did things jointly.

Acheck my old-time friend, today is the day we part ways as brothers. Memories of you and I will forever be imprinted in my memory.

Acheck, yaawo ye hedjplemli. Sleep well Ache Naa Baby.





# TRIBUTES

## 1957-YEAR-GROUP OF ST. AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE, CAPECOAST

“Death be not proud,  
Though some have called thee mighty and dreadful,  
For, those whom thou thinkest thou dost overthrow, die not, poor death...  
One short sleep past and we wake eternally,  
And death shall be no more!  
Death, thou shall die!”  
John Donne (1573 – 1631)

With this opening verse from the 16th Century English metaphysical poet and preacher, John Donne, we the members of the above-named group wish to mourn the passing of one of our prominent classmates of the past 66 years and at the same time console in whatever little way we can, his grieving family. In the 1940s and 1950s, entering a secondary school, especially if this happens to be one of the few top-grade institutions, was equivalent to entering a tertiary institution in today's terms. So great were the stakes and the opportunities and benefits offered to successful graduates were quite considerable and life transforming.

In January 1954, Joe Adjetey as he was fondly known to his mates, was one of the 90 or so lucky teenagers who reported on a hazy harmattan evening at the campus of St. Augustine's college to be enrolled for their 4-year secondary education. For the large majority of these youngsters, it was a life-transforming experience. They would be wearing a pair of trousers and a pair of shoes for the first time in their lives, and eat relatively good meals three times a day with cutlery for the first time in their lives. But on the down side, they would also encounter adverse challenges which could determine whether they were able to stay the course or drop out prematurely.

St. Augustine's of our time under the Irish priests was run almost like a seminary where students needed to not only adhere to strict religious practices but also conform to draconian everyday rules. Under such situations, it was not uncommon for even ordinarily law-abiding students to run into trouble with the frequently bad-tempered Principal who seemed more concerned with adherence to his many petty rules than ensuring better performance by some of his less proficient teachers.

All that notwithstanding, the majority of us were able to pass out successfully by December 1957 and began to disperse in our various directions. Joe Adjetey's interests and ambition seem to have been that of a life on the high seas, so where better to get the requisite skills than at the then Nautical College where he next enrolled and passed out successfully as a proficient sea-farer which enabled him to fulfill his life ambition of sailing to almost all of the world's major ports and harbours.

By the mid-1980s some members of the 1954- intake at St. Augustine's conceived the idea of forming the year-group to enable members get in touch with one another, and share their life experiences and those of their Alma Mater. By the nature of his profession, Joe was normally away from home most of the time, but anytime he was around, he showed up at our functions and meetings. But starting from the year 2000 when most members of this group had gone on retirement and had more time for friends and old mates, Joe became a frequent and active member of the group and participated in most of its activities and functions. Even in the last few years, despite his handicap of having to move round with the aid of a crutch, he never gave up on his beloved year-group, but made sure he attended most of its meetings and functions.

## TRIBUTES

### 1957-YEAR-GROUP OF ST. AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE, CAPECOAST

The year-group jokingly refers to itself as members of an “endangered species”, since its active members now number just a handful and are all in their eighties. Joe's sudden departure cannot but reinforce this view, but worse still, deal a heavy blow to its continued existence.

Joe, may the angels meet you on your celestial journey and escort you to the heavenly abode, where we pray that we would one day all congregate to embrace one another once more!  
And to the family, especially daughters and sons, the 1957-Year-Group wishes to thank you for the love and care you have given our colleague over the years, which no doubt enabled him to finish the race of life and surpass the upper biblical age limit, and pray that the Almighty will console you on this irreparable loss!



# TRIBUTES

## THE CHURCH OF CHRIST (SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT)

The passing away of Elder Joe Aryeetey caught us unawares. Given his advanced age, we were hoping for a total easing of the COVID-19 Protocols so we could share full service together in an atmosphere where the very elderly are permitted to fellowship freely. He was a man of immense skills and invaluable strength, which he brought to bear on any assignment undertaken on behalf of the Church. His contributions in committee meetings were highly admirable. His rich experience and learning attract all shades of people for guidance and advice. He started fellowshipping with our Church close to four decades, and till his last breath remained resolutely truthful to the Word of God and teachings of our Church. He had two signature quotations. As a Marine Engineer, his popular scripture is from the Psalmist declaration of God's wonders and deliverance to those who face tragedy at sea found in Psalm 107:23-32:

*23 Those who go down to the sea in ships,  
Who do business on great waters;  
24 They have seen the works of the Lord,  
And His wonders in the deep.  
25 For He spoke and raised up a stormy wind,  
Which lifted up the waves of the sea.  
26 They rose up to the heavens, they went down to the depths;  
Their soul melted away in their misery.  
27 They reeled and staggered like a drunken man,  
And were at their wits' end.  
28 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
And He brought them out of their distresses.  
29 He caused the storm to be still,  
So that the waves of the sea were hushed.  
30 Then they were glad because they were quiet,  
So He guided them to their desired haven.  
31 Let them give thanks to the Lord for His lovingkindness,  
And for His wonders to the sons of men!  
32 Let them extol Him also in the congregation of the people,  
And praise Him at the seat of the elders"*

The next scripture is about repentance, found in the book of Acts of the Apostles, chapter 17 verses 30 to 31:

*" 30 Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,  
31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead"*

# TRIBUTES

## THE CHURCH OF CHRIST (SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT)

There is a refreshingly strong near-drowning story which happened in the waters of Axim Elder Joe Aryeetey tells on every anniversary at Church gatherings. We believe the family and close associates have heard this story many times. This incident happened in the wee hours of the night some decades ago. He was sailing on a vessel which had some cargo for Ghana, with Takoradi, as the port of call. As usual, he was spared some days to visit family and return for the departure of the vessel. At the fishing harbour, he chanced upon the chief fisherman of Ningo, who made Joe aware their canoe was returning to Accra that evening. He decided to join them on their journey back to Accra in the canoe.

Elder Joe quickly went for his briefcase containing his essentials and unspecified substantial cash, and they set off. According to him, he started dozing off along the way just around Axim. Instead of reporting to the fishermen and asking for a stoppage so he could take a snap before continuing, he wanted to get to Accra early, therefore ignored the promptings. Suddenly, he fell into the deep with the briefcase without the occupants knowing, from the tail end where he chose to sit. He managed to stay afloat for a long time without any sight of the canoe. It was dark skies on the high seas, with very low visibility and the canoe travelled very far before they noticed his absence. Now, all his diving skills and strength were exhausted carrying his precious briefcase. Then he began sinking with the weight of the briefcase, his hands extremely weakened by the luggage. Here, he decided that life was precious than belongings, so he let go the briefcase and valuable contents. For three tragic moments he gave up and sank deep down the water, but each time concluded under the water that he must not die that way but cling to any last strength for hope.

Beloved, at the last resurgence of hope, as he paddled up and stretched one hand out of the water, a hand grabbed him, and a rope tied to his shoulders. The providence of God was at work. Truly, God works in mysterious ways, to perform His wonders. The chief fisherman testified later to him that they nearly aborted the search earlier on, given the low visibility and the absence of any life support devices around to sustain even the best of swimmers over the period. Secondly, the fishermen were greatly disturbed of what account to give about he being missing as there would have been strong grounds to suspect them of having used him for human sacrifice. Thirdly, many people including Elder Joe's colleagues on their vessel, and other fishermen from Accra witnessed they offered him a ride, which they could not have denied.

We know the Good Lord saved him then in order to prepare him for a better home going today, and a better resurrection. There is so much testimony we can offer about his life but time and space would not permit us. We know that this tragic event demonstrates the faithfulness of God's saving power and the rewards of perseverance. We encourage you to keep believing God, keep trusting God for your deliverance is sure and nearer than you think. His life and accomplishments inspired many in the Church, and we always counted on his wise counsel. His commitment and devotion to things of God over the last two decades was phenomenal. It is extremely difficult to say good bye to our Elder and Marine Engineer, who touched the lives of many members of our dear Church positively, including orphans.

To our dear, Elder Joe Aryeetey, we say "Fare Thee Well", till we meet on the resurrection morning.

Yaa wo ojogbann!



# HYMNS

## OPENING HYMN

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and griefs to bear  
what a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit  
Oh, 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

## METHODIST HYMNAL 251

1: Omnipotent Redeemer,  
Our ransomed souls adore Thee;  
Whate'er is done Thy work we own,  
And give Thee all the glory;  
With thankfulness acknowledge Our time of visitation;  
Thine hand confess, and gladly bless  
The God of our salvation.

2: Thou hast employed Thy servants,  
And blessed their weak endeavours,  
And lo! in Thee We myriads see of practical believers;  
The church of pardoned sinner Sing all day long  
The gospel song, And triumph in Thy favour.

3: Thy wonders wrought already Require our ceaseless praises;  
But show Thy power, And  
myriads more Endue with heavenly graces.  
But fill our earth with glory, And, known by every nation,  
God of all grace Receive the praise of all Thy new creation. Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

Yɛ bɛ to Ebenezer  
Nyame N'adom ara akwa  
Kae ade a Onyame aye ama wo  
Na fa ndaase ma No

Ebenezer, Nyame N'adom ara akwa  
Kae ade a Onyame aye ama wo  
Na fa ndaase ma No

## METHODIST HYMNAL 701

1: THE Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord; She is His  
new creation By water and the Word; From heaven He came and  
sought her To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.

2: Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of  
salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth, One holy Name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses, With every  
grace endued

3: Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed, By  
schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed; Yet saints their watch  
are keeping, Their cry goes up: How long And soon the night of  
weeping Shall be the morn of song.

4: Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war, She waits the  
consummation Of peace forevermore, Till, with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest, And the great Church victorious Shall be  
the Church at rest.

5: Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One, And  
mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won, O happy  
ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, Like them, the meek and  
lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.  
Amen

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are grateful to you for your  
Prayers, Support and Show of Love  
during this time of Mourning.

God Richly Bless You.