

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE LATE



Dr. Mark Stephen
YAW OWIREDU



Date: Saturday 11th July, 2020

Venue: At Transitions Funeral Home, Asore
Junction Atomic - Kwabenya main road, Haatsö



Forever

IN OUR HEARTS



Dr. Mark Stephen
YAW OWIREDU

*Pharm. D FGCPS., General Manager
(manufacturing), Ernest Chemists Limited*

September 7, 1957 - June 2, 2020



ORDER OF SERVICE

Saturday, 11th July, 2020



Part One

Burial Service

- Scripture Sentence Presbyter Enoch Otchere
- Opening Hymn Ph 811: 1 – 3
- Liturgical Prayer Presbyter Enoch Otchere
- A Song By Anum School Alumni
- Life History Family Member
- Solo Organist (Ewuradwoa)
- Tributes Wife, Children, Church (Logos) And Ernest Bediako (CEO)
- Hymn 809: 1 – 3
- Scripture Reading/sermon Rev. Emmanuel Sabu Ofori
- Prayer Of Thanksgiving Rev. Minister
- (The Lord's Prayer)
- Christian Charity Organist / Church Choir
- Prayer Of Dedication Catechist
- Blotting Out of Pharmaceutical License
- Announcement Clerk
- Hymn PH 489: 1 - 3
- Benediction Rev E. S. Ofori
- Funeral/Dead March PH 824

Part Two

At the grave side

- Scripture Sentence Isaac Ayine
- Hymn PH 787: 1 – 3
- Exhortation Rev. Minister
- Prayer Rev. Minister
- Committal Rev. E. S. Ofori
- Hymn PH 805: 1 – 2
- Vote Of Thanks Family Member
- Benediction Rev. Emmanuel Sabu Ofori



HYMNS

811 1-3, 809 1-3, 489 1-3,



811 1-3

1. Eternal rest remains for Christians,
My soul, come then with light of hope. The
burden may be much to bear now, The
'morning sun' shall rise so soon. Behold the
Lamb of God in beauty, He'll care for you
both now and ever! Leave all your burdens,
come to Him. The battle here shall soon be
over,

All struggles and all pain shall end here.
And you shall enter God's rest soon.

2. Eternal rest, rest everlasting,
The Father has reserved for us.
In much love God has planned this for us,
Before creation, God planned this.
The Lamb of God, Christ died for sinners,
He died that we might share in God's Rest.
For Christ said, "Come all that labor",
All you who labor and are burdened", "And
I shall give you rest" said, Jesus.
For in Me you have lasting peace.

3. All you that labor and are burdened,
Come now all wearied laborers come. That
you may be relieved by Jesus, To enter rest
He has for you.
In scorching heat, you labor, suffer,
And Jesus says to you that labor,
In Him shall find rest for your soul.
He is your own, He calls his people, Yield
not to Satan's calls and promptings, Be not
afraid, come to the Lord.

809 1-3

Through many a tribulation,
From varied dwelling places. Christians must
leave their home at [last,
Enter their rest from labors. The Father from
above,
Shall come and welcome them. Our life is like a
seed one sows, It shall be harvested for Heav'n.
2. Finish the race that you begun, Bless'ed shall
be your footsteps. Freedom you have from sin
and death, This earthly tent you must leave.
My soul you must now leave,
To home with God must go.
You shall be blessed with love of God, Eternal
rest you shall enjoy.

3. In joy you patiently must wait, Wait for the
great unfolding.
When the righteous clothes are ready, The holy
clothes you must wear. Patiently you must wait,
Wait for the time of Christ.
He'll come for you on that great Day, And safely
lead you Home above.

489 1-3

The King of Love my Shepherd is, Whose good-
ness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His,
And He is mine forever.



HYMNS

824, 787 1-3,



2. Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth;

And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed; But yet in love He sought me, And on His shoulder gently laid, And Home rejoicing brought me.

824

When the Day of Judgment has come here with us, Lord Jesus may I see You as Savior.

Let me seek You Jesus in life on earth,

Then I shall have no fear on the judgment Day.

On that great Day Jesus, where shall I turn to now, Who shall be my savior but you O Lord?

Who shall deal with sin great I have in life?

What shall I do with sin, before Christ the Judge?

But I know the Lord forgives our trespasses, You Lord, desire not death for trespasses.

Your death and resurrection stands for all men, Jesus, have mercy on, me your servant

I pray.

In this I shall come with boldness before you, Christ shall rather be advocate for me.

Christ shall clothe me in His own righteousness then, Eternal life shall have, in Christ Jesus Lord.

787 1-3

All the Saints shall be with God, In Him they have treasure great. They shall be with Christ their Lord, With Him they shall always live.

2. Some are leaving us today, Others soon shall follow them, but we do not ask to know, whether here is home for us?

3. If the Lord gives us a choice, to be with Him now or wait, many would like to be here, They shall mourn to leave this earth.



HYMNS

805 1-2



805 1-2

1. Farewell, loved one,
You have been called by God.
He welcomes you back Home. Here
we do mourn,
Your death is hard to bear,
But we have hope in God.
We weep not like those who have
[no hope, In patience and in hope we
say now,
Farewell, loved one.

2. Farewell, loved one,
The Lord our God Himself, He calls
you to return.
He sent you here,
His work in you is done,
The time has come to leave.
We bid you farewell on the journey,
None can restrain you, God has
[called you. Farewell, loved one.



CELEBRATING DR. MARK STEPHEN YAW OWIREDU

Biography



“Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it's thinking of yourself less”. “C.S Lewis

Most of you here present may have witnessed or experienced Mark's humility. For those who never encountered him, sorry, but you have missed. As a family, we experienced it the most. We thank God for having this gentleman as a member of the family. Where Mark's strengths could not go, his humility and intelligence took him. He was a true embodiment of integrity and humility.

On September 7, 1957, a baby boy was born to Mr. Jordan Smith Owiredu and Madam Paulina Oforiwaa both of blessed memory. This boy was to be christened Mark Stephen Owiredu whom we all affectionately called Bro. Mark in the family. He was the third of six siblings.

Mark Owiredu attended the renowned Anum Presbyterian Senior Boys' School, in Form 2, under a very difficult learning environment, the smart Mark took and successfully passed the Common Entrance Examination, gaining admission to Anum Secondary School (1972 - 1976), where he completed the Ordinary Level education. He then went on to complete his Advanced Level at Winneba Secondary School (1976 -1978). In relentless pursuit of his ambitions, Mark progressed further in his education and obtained a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from KNUST in 1982.

Mark became an intern at the then GIHOC Pharmaceuticals after graduating. Not wanting to lose a gem in the making, the company subsequently employed the young Mr. Owiredu upon the completion of the internship program. His hard work and brilliance as a Pharmacist, paid off once again, as Mark was sponsored by the company to have a stint with a renowned German Pharmaceutical company, Sun Pharmaceutical GmbH, not only to broaden his scope in the pharmaceutical landscape but also to create valuable networks within the industry, some of which he still counted on till his untimely death.

For close to 38 years, Mark never relented in his dedication and service to the pharmaceutical industry in Ghana, the evidence of which has been eloquently written by those of you who knew him in his professional life. His work and contribution to this industry, cuts across the public and private sectors to regulatory, policy-making, and advisory roles. His service towards the development of the pharmaceutical industry in Ghana included working with GIHOC Pharmaceuticals, DANAFCO, Meecham Chemist, Phyto-Riker, Kinapharma and finally at Ernest Chemist Limited where he delivered his services as the General Manager, until his sudden demise in the early hours of that fateful day, Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

He was a Fellow of the Ghana College of Pharmacists and was appointed as a member of the School of Pharmacy Management Committee by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana from 2017 until his passing. Mark was also served as a member of the first Technical Advisory Committee on Safety of Medicines at the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) from 2005 to 2016.

CELEBRATING DR. MARK STEPHEN YAW OWIREDU

Biography cont'd

To say our son, brother, father and uncle was a gentleman, will be repeating the obvious which most here can attest to. He was quiet, respectful, generous, and endowed with such great intellect. Mark always left enviable 'marks' wherever he went. As human as he was, he may have had his shortcomings, however, most of us in his family can hardly recall a situation in which Bro. Mark had gotten angry and flared up. He was so calm that it sometimes hurt.

His dedication to humanity is reflected in the numerous individuals he has supported and was still supporting to reach higher goals of their choosing. Always ready to lend a helping hand without regard to relationship, tribe, creed, or status. A true family man, he was blessed with a daughter and four sons (Vanessa, Stephen, Mark, Joel and Jason) whom he loved dearly and were the source of his pride. As a born Presbyterian, Mark worshipped at the Logos Presbyterian Church, Achimota with pleasure and true dedication. We already miss you.

Mark, you have touched so many lives in the best ways possible. We are grateful to God for loaning you to us, we salute you our hero and we are proud of your achievements. As a family, we promise to do our best to support your wife and children you left.

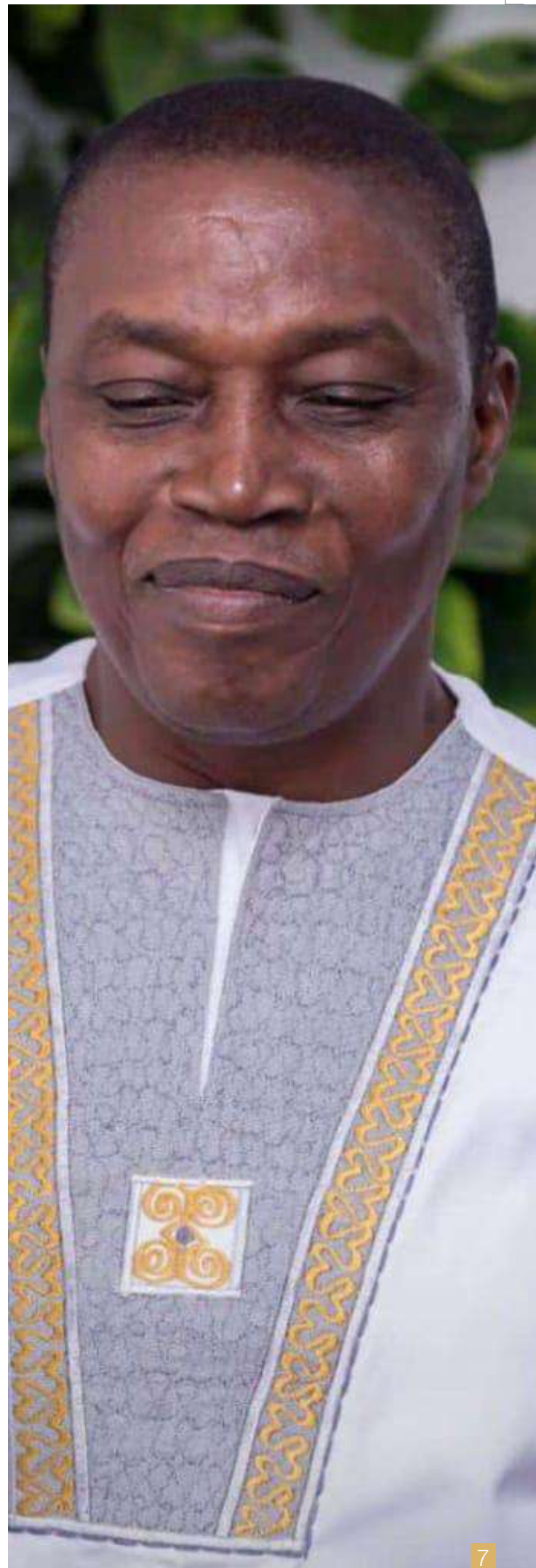
The Family thanks you, the Pharmaceutical fraternity thanks you, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana thanks you and Ghana thanks you too. You will be missed.

Bro. Mark, you will be missed no doubt, but our consolation comes from what the Bible says in *Romans 6:5* "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his".

Love always, Mark

Rest well in the Lord.

Damirifa due!



TRIBUTE FROM WIFE

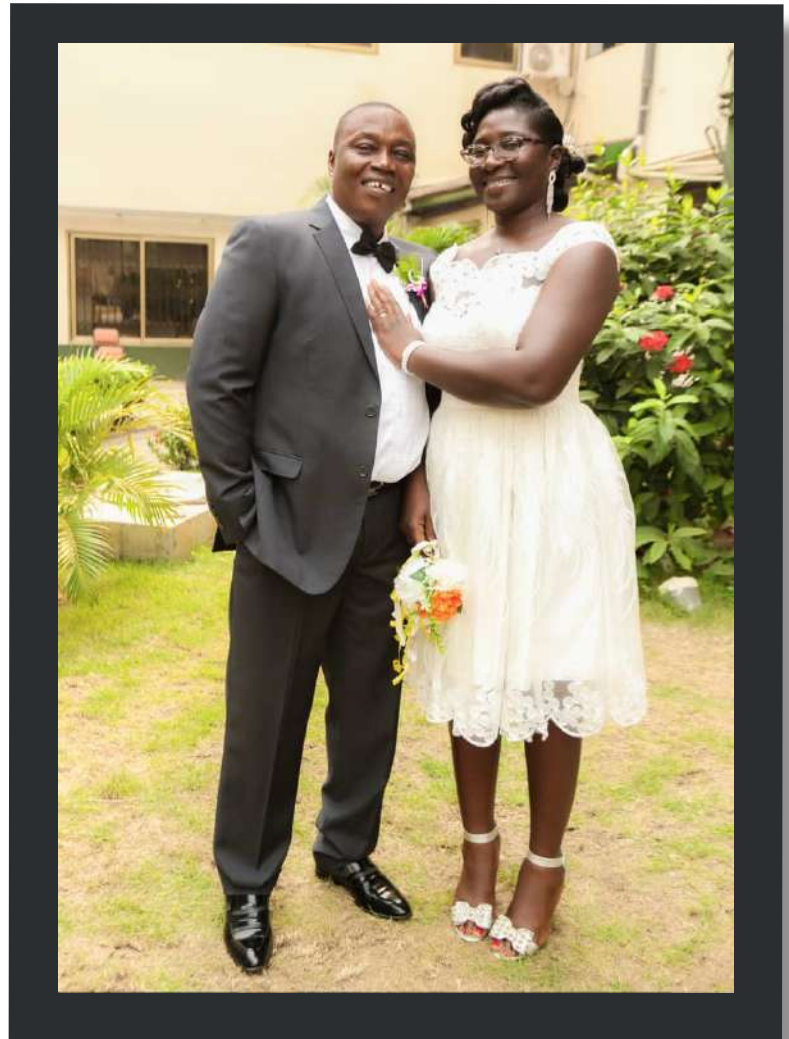


"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand". Amen...Isaiah 41:10.

You are always there to respond "YES" to us calling - 'Daddy', as myself and the children call you. However, it turned into words of explanation in answering a simple question when the boys woke up, "Mummy, where is Daddy?" I am still struggling to give a definitive answer as the refrain of the said questions continuously resonate with me, day and night.

Well, I managed to answer a few of the questions such as "Why are lots of people coming to our house?", "Why is someone driving Daddy's car?", "Why are people in black attire?", "Why such a big Veronica bucket in front of the gate?", as well as why is a flower placed in front of Daddy's portrait picture?. I wish I could answer such a 'harmless questions' relating to where you are, Daddy. For it was fun answering to the children when you travelled outside the country for official assignments, knowing very well the day you will return home. Hmmm!! The same cannot be said today. But I know you're resting in the bosom of our Father in Heaven and smiling towards us. And we fear not, for we know you're still with us.

The vacuum created by your absence cannot be filled by anyone, except the Lord.



For neither would my floods of hidden tears shed do, cried as I have. In the mornings, I put up an appearance like "Yaa Asantewaa" to avoid further questions by the kids, but I go to bed letting it all out crying like a discontent baby. O Daddy!

You were such a kind hearted man. Even though we are the immediate casualties of your passing, everyone who truly knew you would appreciate the repercussions of this long absence. A loving husband, ...an extraordinary father, ...a leader and a great a mentor.

I will never struggle to define who an "Angel" on earth is, because you were indeed an Angel. The ease with which you rendered help to others in need, be it shelter, health support, food, finances and especially education, was just phenomenal.

TRIBUTE

FROM WIFE cont'd



*"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand".
Amen...Isaiah 41:10.*

You were simply so many things to a lot of people! ... My heart will always be full of admiration and gratitude to you... and for a life with you. You knew why you were discrete with so many things, a life of a quiet and private husband, though a bedroom talkative, I will greatly miss you Mark. I will miss the "tiny" voice you make in calling me "Obaa". I will miss how you tease me when we sit to watch telenovela's together.

You have left a good mark worthy of emulating. A man of integrity, honesty and principles yet, caring, hardworking and above all a God-fearing loving father. I am proud of you Bro. Yaw.

What we do not know is how the future will unfold as the years pass by, but what I do know is that our Lord almighty and your loving memories will forever comfort and keep us. As the Psalmist says "The Lord is near to the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit".

The thought of living on without you has been pretty troubling...

But as you profoundly kept saying, "In all things, God is with us".

You will forever remain in my heart, Love.

Rest in Perfect Peace.

I love you.

My chairman, we will surely meet again.

Rest well...

TRIBUTE FROM CHILDREN



In all things give thanks to God, these words couldn't hold more weight for us than they did on June 2, 2020 when you were taken from us with no warning. No words will ever describe what a deep void has been left in our hearts

We wished we had more time with you, graduations, weddings & grandchildren you will never meet but we were blessed to learn so much from you

Our daddy was a great man, human but the best father anyone could have asked for

Your love, devotion, forgiving heart and selflessness were values we could never forget, and can only hope to imitate.

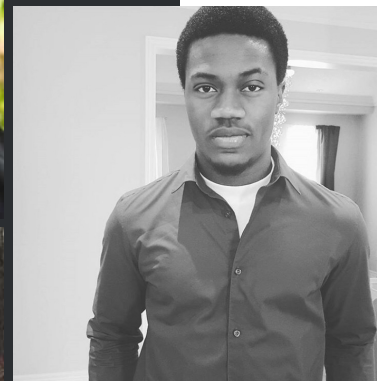
Sitting outdoors together, chatting about current events, your advice, your laughter and even your sarcastic rebuke are the little things we will never forget and will forever miss.

You sacrificed everything you could to ensure we were well off and for that we are eternally grateful

Thank you for teaching us unconditional love, the value of hardwork & that we must all stick together.

To the rest of the world you were a kind man, to us you were protection, comfort and home, we were blessed to know you and we will forever carry you in our hearts and hope to make you proud.

We take comfort in knowing you died in the Lord, till we meet again daddy, rest well



Vanessa
Stephen
Mark
Joel
Jason

TRIBUTE FROM FATHER



Mark has been the nephew that turned up more of a son and again a younger brother I hardly had. He had his very own niche in my heart...a niche I never imagined could be rendered empty before my time was up. But alas. This passing of the noble son at his prime has dealt the blow of a crude reminder of the unfair but unquestionable ways of this life.

I have been his father even before we lost my brother and his biological dad...and it has been a delight to watch Mark rise above the storms of this life to find sunshine.

It wasn't supposed to be so...but now that death has chosen to strike at the younger of us, grief is the price I must pay for loving him so dearly. Losing a beloved child no matter what age they are makes your heart break in places you never knew existed... and truth be told, Mark's death leaves a heartache no one can heal. I will however console myself in the vain belief that he leaves proud memories that no one can steal.

Rest in Peace Son.

You went past the Mark.

May you find Eternal Rest as you journey on.

'Beso mensa na gyigyee me Magyenkwa pa' PH518

TRIBUTE FROM PROFESSOR CHARLES & REV. MRS. GIFTY OWIREDU.



It is difficult for me to come to terms with the reality that my brother in law, whom I affectionately call Brother Mark, is no more.

The news of your passing felt like a rude dream. It was unexpected and was too swift. I contemplated again for a while on the subject of why the good die early. Undoubtedly, for the righteous, to die is gain but how sad it is for us who remain to lose another righteous man in a world already deprived of righteous people.

Nevertheless, I concluded that the day of a righteous man's death is better than the day of his birth; for at birth he is welcomed by humanity into a world within perilous times where labor and toil precedes him, but at death he is welcomed by divine angels and a crown of glory accompanied with an excellent reward precedes him.

Therefore, this is a day of celebration, a day of remembering old but beautiful memories and a day of honoring a man whose humility, goodness, generosity and loyalty was incomparable. A dedicated family man who always had a smile with a friendly word, a man who had the gift to touch the hearts of people in ways many could not.

Indeed, my brother Mark, you have set the bar high and it will be difficult to find one who can rise to meet it.

As a man who always thought of ways to help others, it is not surprising that he was also known to be a man of great love and compassion, a man with a positive outlook on life and whose presence you could never get tired of.

It is true that man is only dead when he is forgotten. Therefore, my brother Mark will live forever in our hearts and minds and in that of our children and their children; for who can forget the great ideas he shared, the encouraging words he spoke, the acts of kindness he showed, and his ever contagious smile.

Thank you for always looking out for us. As Abraham Lincoln said "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count...It's the life in your years." You truly have lived a full life and you made every bit of it count. We all will miss you dearly and we are grateful for having known you.

May you find Eternal Rest in the Bosom of our LORD.



TRIBUTE FROM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GHANA (PCG) LOGOS CONGREGATION, ACHIMOTA - COLLEGE,



“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts” Isaiah 55:8 - 9 (NIV)

The sad news of the sudden departure of Dr. Mark Stephen Yaw Owiredu shocked the entire congregation. In fact we were totally engulfed with the reality of disbelief but the Sovereign Lord who knows why there is a limit to any human life and knows what is best for us, thought it expedient to call him home at a time as this.

The late Dr. Mark Stephen Yaw Owiredu whose passing we mourn today, joined PCG, Logos Congregation in 2009 and the Men’s Fellowship in 2018. Being the General Manager (Manufacturing) of Ernest Chemists Limited, he joined hands with others to establish a solid financial administrative and budgeting system in the church. He served in several roles in the church such as a member of the Board of Governors of Logos Pre-School, the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the church and a member of the Church’s Golden Jubilee Committee. As the Secretary of the Golden Jubilee Committee, Dr. Owiredu ensured that every activity proposed was properly and expertly executed. This was during the period of September 2014 to December 2015.

Dr. Mark Stephen Yaw Owiredu’s level of humility was exemplary to the point where as a church, nobody knew he was holding a PhD. He was quiet and unassuming. Bro. Mark was a fine gentleman to the core. He was very generous and supported on the quiet, almost all church programs and activities that needed funding. He contributed to the upkeep of many less privileged children in the church on the quiet by paying their fees and to the extent of adding provisions.

He donated medications to support blood donations exercises and always partook in health walks organized by the church.

As Chairman of the Finance Committee Bro. Mark and his team built a sound financial management system for the church, which was incorporated into its Strategic Plan document.

Though quiet, he was a strong pillar in the church. This sudden departure from us has created a big social, intellectual, economical and relational vacuum. He will surely be missed.

We express our love and heartfelt condolences to the family. We share your pain and agony but urge that you take consolidation in the Lord. His victorious hand will continue to sustain you through these storms of life.

Bro. Mark, God knows the perfect time to gather flowers from the ground for the heavenly garden. The Lord has picked you to give you eternal rest. We will miss you dearly but we rejoice in the hope that the heavens are happy to receive you into the family of saints.

May the good and gracious Lord keep your soul in perfect peace till we meet on the resurrection day. Amen

TRIBUTE FROM PAPA TIMO'S FAMILY



To everything, there is a time and season. This is a difficult time, but we have to say, it is well with our soul and continue to hold onto our faith in the Lord, our God.

It is with heavy hearts that we pay tribute to our dear cousin, who we knew as a big brother and friend. Bro. Mark as we all affectionately call him, has been a great pillar in our lives, in diverse ways and we are sad that he had to go and be with the Lord at this time.

Bro. Mark, was very special to us. He brought us to Ofankor, found our late father "Papa Timo" a plot of land at Ofankor where we built our family home. You further reached out to our maternal uncle and also found him a piece of land to build his house at Ofankor. Bro. Mark, you have always been interested in our welfare and you never hesitated to put aside your own needs to help any of us at any time.

Being our brilliant cousin, a knowledgeable Pharmacist for that matter, you were our "Anum Family Pharmacist" and we will always pick up the phone to call you about one health challenge or other; or find out more about some medication that had been prescribed for us.

The entire Owiredu family has been greatly affected by your sudden demise. We will miss your gentleness and calmness even in the midst of storms; your encouraging and comforting words and your smile. We take solace in the fact that, you knew the Lord and you are resting in his bosom.

Together with our mother Auntie Bea, we (Ofeibea, Kofi Ntow, Panyin, Kakra and Nana Amma) say thank you once again and pray that the Lord grants you eternal rest.

Bro. Mark, Onyame mfa wo nsie!

From: Ofeibea, Kofi Ntow, Panyin,
Kakra and Nana Amma

TRIBUTE FROM ERNEST BEDIAKO SAMPONG - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ERNEST CHEMISTS LIMITED



My life is but a weaving between the Lord and me, I may not choose the colours.

He knows what they should be, For He can view the pattern upon the upper side,

While I can see it only on this, the underside...

Sometimes He weaveth sorrow, which seemeth strange to me.

But I will trust His judgement, and work on faithfully.

'Tis He who fills the shuttle, and He knows what is best, So I shall weave in earnest, leaving to Him the rest...Not till the loom is silent and the shuttles cease to fly. Shall God unroll the canvas and explain the reason why

The dark threads are as needed in the Weaver's skillful hand; As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has planned.

Author unknown

I have known Mark as I call him, over two decades when we decided to go into Pharmaceutical products Manufacturing. Upon his employment with Ernest Chemists Limited in 2001, he was made the Production Manager and also part of the team that ensured machine installations and certifications, at the time.

As one of the pioneers in our Manufacturing Division, Mark brought to bear his experiences from various sojourns of his working life which I respected a lot. His commitment and contributions over the period have brought tremendous growth and development at the Division.

Over the last 19 years of working with ECL, I watched keenly how you excelled, making the Board of Directors commit so much into you as you rose from Production Manager in your career growth to become the General Manager at the Manufacturing Division, a position you held until your sudden demise. You had the growth of the business at heart and you demonstrated this through your selfless leadership, professionalism and insight. Thank you for being a mentor and inspiration to your staff and colleagues, sharing your knowledge, experiences and growth. Thank you for your commitment and contribution to the Pharmaceutical fraternity in Ghana and beyond our shores. Mark, your memory will last forever! Your impact will live on! Your good deeds will forever be remembered in Ernest Chemists Limited and You will always have a special place in our hearts.

Mark Stephen Owiredu, on behalf of the Board, Directors and Management of Ernest Chemists Limited, I say, "Rest in the bosom of the Almighty God..... Damirifa Due!"

TRIBUTE FROM ERNEST CHEMISTS LIMITED



The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who walk uprightly enter peace; they find rest as they lie in death. Isaiah 57:1-2

Over two decades ago, the Directors of Ernest Chemists Limited embarked on a strategic journey to diversify their business operations to include local pharmaceutical manufacturing. Somebody most suitable, knowledgeable and with the requisite experience was expectedly needed to help nature this idea. A frantic and a careful search both locally and internationally ended when Mr. Mark Stephen Owiredu agreed to come on board.

He set out to work immediately as a consultant in the design and construction of the facility. He played a leading role in the selection, procurement and installation of all equipment and utility facilities required at the initial stages of ECL manufacturing. By December 2001, he ensured that all was set for production to take off and so it came as no surprise at all when he single-handedly formulated and led a team of technicians and operators to commercialize the first batch of paracetamol tablet to launch Ernest Chemists Limited into a completely new arena and era of pharmaceutical business.

Mr. Mark Owiredu, with a very high level of commitment, total dedication and with the life of the Ghanaian patient as his principal focus restlessly continued in this path until his last breath on that darkest Tuesday, 2nd June, 2020.

His continuous and insatiable desire for the advancement of the local pharmaceutical industry in general and Ernest Chemists Limited in particular ensured that he led us not only through the conception,

but also through the developmental, and growth stages of ECL manufacturing and by his exploits we can confidently boast of over 150 different, high quality products spread across various hospitals, clinics, pharmacies and even CHPS compounds in Ghana and the West Africa sub-region. Indeed we are forever proud of you and I believe anyone who uses your product and through that saves his/her life shall remember you from generation to generation.

For most of us at the factory, it has been very difficult to tell whether he was an Industrial Pharmacist, a Formulation Scientist, an Engineer, a Logistics and Procurement Consultant, a Teacher, a Coach, a Mentor, an International Relations Expert or a Welfare officer. What we can confidently say is that he performed his duties in these diverse fields with the highest dexterity.

Mr. Owiredu, you led as a servant, played the role of a father to all and received everybody irrespective of ones qualification, position or status to your office. Your care and unmatched generosity towards all staff shall greatly be missed. Who shall give us the personal loans which most of us never paid back yet you never complained but continued to give? Indeed you sacrificed your health and wealth for the good of all.

Mr. Mark Owiredu was highly approachable, ready to listen and even more ready to assist and support us in moments of any difficulty. He would always go the extra mile and come down to everyone's level with a simple and humble attitude.

TRIBUTE FROM ERNEST CHEMISTS LIMITED



He worked sometimes from Monday to Sunday to ensure that all problems being it technical, social or staff related, were completely resolved.

The academic, career and personal development of staff was of great concern to him and in this respect, he encouraged and supported a good number of us to pursue and acquire new certificates and qualifications.

Your relationship with staff, our suppliers and partners, both local and abroad, was exceptional, ...a feat which is testified to by the numerous calls and messages of condolence we received from Europe, India, China, America and other places.

You gave us jobs, and that is to say our source of livelihood. You helped us develop our careers and above all you taught us unforgettable lessons which shall stick with us forever.

You lighted a lamp for all of us and today, our paths are well brightened.

MSO, to wit Mark Stephen Owiredu, we are grateful. For the twenty years and over that we have been working with him, we did not hear of any critical ill health or hospital attendance.

He always looked healthy, hearty, strong in appearance and deeds, and for some of us, a man who carried a huge tonnage of humor.

He persistently dissolved and diffused tensions and also lifted us up with his unique sense of humor.

On Monday, 1st June, 2020 he reported to work as usual. We had our formal and for some of us informal discussions and the usual 1pm to 2pm lunchtime jokes, debates and arguments with him. He left the office at about 7pm which was typical of him even at his age and position. There was no sign or indication of sickness, tiredness or distress around him at the time he retired for home.

On Tuesday, he had set up a management meeting, circulated agenda for the meeting and posted a last minute Whatsapp message telling us about his expectations for the discussions. This meeting could not come off as scheduled, instead we were terribly hit with the devastating news of his demise. The entire factory was engulfed with shock, disbelief, dejection, confusion, wailing, lamentations and uncoordinated behaviours.

Mr. Owiredu, GM, MSO; your death has made us "orphans", your sudden departure has turned us into an army without the usual commander and a flock without a shepherd. You saved many lives through your profession only to lose yours at this unfortunate moment, why?

There are wounds that never show on the body which are deeper and more hurtful than anything that bleeds. This is the level of pain in our hearts.

GM, Why have you left us mid-stream when we have so much unfinished business?

MSO, At least you could have waited to witness and participate in the commissioning of our EU-GMP factory at Klagon before leaving us, right?

Death indeed is not only inevitable but very wicked. Maybe as it is said; "sometimes our lives have to be completely shaken up, changed and re-arranged to relocate us to the place where we are meant to be". Could this be the reason? You have gone, but we know that your presence in other dimensions is palpably with us as individuals, as a company and as a nation. May the Lord cause your good works to follow you till we meet again. You shall forever remain in our hearts.

MSO, Rest in Peace

GM, Da yie.

Amen.

TRIBUTE FROM THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GHANA (PSGH)



“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. - 1 Cor. 15:55-58 NKJV

On occasions like this when pharmacists congregate to pay our last respects to a departed colleague, especially one of the stature of Pharm. Mark Stephen Owiredu, we console ourselves with these words:

“Death is not extinguishing the light; it is only putting out the lamp because the dawn has come”.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) received the news of the sudden passing away of Pharm. Mark Stephen Owiredu with utter disbelief on that fateful Tuesday, 2nd June, 2020. His passing away was a shock to the pharmacy fraternity.

As a matter of fact, he had just participated in a virtual preceptor training organized by the Ghana College of Pharmacists the week before where he as usual made very valuable contributions to the importance of preceptorship in the training of specialist and consultant pharmacists. His last input was on the need to focus on the 70-20-10 formula as we train specialist and consultant pharmacists. The 70-20-10 formula or rule was developed by Morgan McCall, Robert Eichinger and Michael Lombardo at the Center for Creative Leadership in North Carolina, USA. This formula proposes that on average, 70% of a person's learning at work is internal and experience-based, 20% comes from interacting with fellow employees and 10% is the result of formal training and reading. This was the important lesson Pharm. Owiredu left for us prior to his sudden departure to be with his Maker. Pharm. Mark Stephen Owiredu was admitted to Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) to pursue Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) in 1979. He was admitted to the University Hall popularly known as Katanga. He was thus a Kantangee and a Fellow.

At the Faculty of Pharmacy, he combined his academic activities very well with general student activities. He participated in all Ghana Pharmaceutical Students' Association activities including Drug Safety Campaigns and Health Promotion activities. He held the position of General Secretary of the GPSA whilst at the KNUST. Due to the aluta by university students, he and his year group went through the compact programme and graduated in 1982.

Pharm. Mark Stephen Owiredu was very much interested in local production of pharmaceuticals and it was no wonder he chose to undertake his one year mandatory internship at GIHOC Pharmaceuticals (now Phytoriker). After completion of the internship, he wrote and passed the Ghana Pharmacy Professional Qualifying Examination (GPPQE) and became a registered member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH). His assigned registration number by the Pharmacy Council was PA 808. Because of his dedication and passion for the pharmaceutical industry and local manufacture of pharmaceuticals, he was employed by GIHOC Pharmaceuticals after completing the internship. He pursued his ambition to learn, improve and help develop the local pharmaceutical industry, and so became one of the experts in the pharmaceutical industry.

He undertook further practical training in Pharmaceutical formulation and manufacturing in Germany while he was at GIHOC Pharmaceuticals.

Pharm. Mark Owiredu's expertise made him a household name amongst industrial pharmacists and he was sought after by many pharmaceutical manufacturers. He has at one point in time or the other assisted most pharmaceutical manufacturing companies in Ghana with his expertise and competence.

TRIBUTE FROM THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GHANA (PSGH) cont'd



These include Kinapharma and Dannex Pharmaceuticals among others.

Pharm. Mark Owiredu put his knowledge, competence and expertise at the disposal of the PSGH. He was always a resource person at AGMs, programmes and activities on pharmaceutical manufacturing and was very actively involved in the activities of Industrial Pharmacists Association of the PSGH. He was instrumental in developing the PSGH Strategic Plan which included a pillar and sections on developing local pharmaceutical manufacturing. Prior to his demise, he was the General Manager of Ernest Chemists pharmaceutical manufacturing plant in Tema where he mentored and raised many pharmacists and employees to develop skills and competences in pharmaceutical manufacturing.

The PSGH has indeed lost an illustrious member.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

Fare thee well!

Damrifa due! Nantie yie!!



TRIBUTE FROM THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA.



Members of the School of Pharmacy Management Committee were shocked and deeply saddened by news of the demise of our late beloved member Pharm Dr. Mark Owiredu, who barely a week to his demise was present at the Committee's online meeting where as usual he made very valuable contributions.

Pharm Dr. Owiredu was appointed a member to the School of Pharmacy Management Committee by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana on October 17, 2017. He served actively on the Management Committee of the School for three (3) years and made laudable contributions to the academic and business matters of the School until his untimely demise.

Pharm Dr. Owiredu had a very welcoming personality that endeared him to all members of the Committee. Because of his warmth and commitment to the matters of the School, he was always called upon for further consultations on key matters discussed at the Committee's meetings especially during the recent era of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He will be forever remembered for the zeal with which he discharged his duties as a member of the Management Committee and the wealth of knowledge he imparted to the Committee. He was a role model and an inspiration to his pharmacist colleagues at the School.

Pharm Dr. Owiredu, the University of Ghana School of Pharmacy, members of its Management Committee and the College of Health Sciences will always hold dear our fond memories of you. May the Lord in His infinite mercy and grace, grant you peaceful rest. Amen

TRIBUTE FROM THE GHANA COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS



“Do you see someone skilled in their work? They will serve before kings...”

Prov. 22:29

Dr. Mark Owiredu was one of the very renowned industrial and manufacturing pharmacists this country Ghana can ever boast of.

When the Ghana College of Pharmacists was established around 2012, the College needed to select Fellows who should be people who have practiced and have shown excellence in their area of practice and specialization. Mark became an obvious choice from the Faculty of Drug Production within the Division of Drug Production and Quality Assurance. He was skilled at his work!

Ever since he was nominated and inducted as a Fellow, Mark showed remarkable interest in the affairs of his faculty and, for that matter, the College. He was a pillar in the executive committee of the Division of Drug Production and Quality Assurance and has provided thoughtful and insightful direction to the Division.

Dr. Owiredu was a lecturer, a preceptor and an examiner at the primaries and the membership levels of the College's training program. Indeed, he was nominated in recent times as a supervisor for candidates who opted to specialize in the area of Drug Production and Quality Assurance. These candidates presented their research proposals only a week after his demise.

His students have benefited immensely from his advice and direction while they were going through their research in partial fulfillment for the award of Membership or Fellowship of the College.

The College will now have to look for new supervisors for his current students, and the students will have to learn to work with new supervisors midway through their work. A big gap has been created in the academic life of the Ghana College of Pharmacists. A gap which we see that we will struggle to fill. The demise of Dr. Mark Owiredu is indeed a big loss to the Ghana College of Pharmacists.

We extend our deepest condolences to the bereaved family, Dr. Owiredu's wife and children, and all Members and Fellows of the Ghana College of Pharmacists.

Our prayer is that the good Lord will preserve his gentle soul until the day of the Resurrection Day.

Mark fare thee well. Adieu!



TRIBUTE FROM KNUST PHARMACY CLASS OF 1982



We the KNUST Pharmacy Class of 1982 pay our tribute of respect to the memory of our friend and classmates, Dr. Mark Owiredu.

We realize, far beyond our humble ability to express ourselves, that we have lost, not only a capable professional colleague, but a true friend, a generous heart, and one who we also know was much loved.

We were ushered into an innovative and creative Pharmacy class at the then University of Science and Technology, now the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and technology in January 1979. Mark Owiredu was a great contributor to that environment; a special quality which he preserved and carried through in his chosen career as a Specialist Manufacturing Pharmacist.

Mark was a man with an eye for detail, a critical requirement in an industry where slight variations from the standards could compromise the health status of many.

We all knew Mark as a very hardworking team player from the very time he took office in school as the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Students Association; an excellent, knowledgeable unassuming fine gentleman of few words but full of action.

Mark, your focused loyalty to your call to provide relief and preserve quality of life by ensuring the purest standards that may be provided through medicines, from your crucial contributions to local manufacturing of medicines, from the then GIHOC Pharmaceuticals through to Ernest Chemists Manufacturing are well recorded. You were one of the best in your field in Ghana and West Africa, if not the best. You made your MARK!

The memory of your simple, unassuming life of truth and integrity will help us in our reflections to be good and true to our Maker. Your infectious smile will be missed.

May God in His mercy, comfort the aching hearts of all those who are grieving and mourning your sudden and untimely departure.

Farewell Mark! Farewell, affable classmate of Pharmily 1982!

Rest In Peace in the LORD. AMEN.

TRIBUTE FROM MR TRIPATHI & MR ASANTE BOATENG



The late Mark Stephen Yaw Owiredu was a kind hearted, humble, extremely patient and above all a very generous man who would not hesitate a second to help those in need. His generosity knew no boundaries and so many people at both the work place and home have benefited from him.

He was one of the pioneers in the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry in Ghana.

He graduated from the then University of Science and Technology, Kumasi in July, 1982 and joined the then GIHOC Pharmaceuticals Ltd in October, 1982 as a national service personnel. By deed of hard work and intelligence, he was employed permanently by management of GIHOC Pharmaceuticals Ltd in 1983 after his national service. Mark rose through the ranks and became the production manager, oral solid dosage forms. During his tenure of office, Mark took the opportunity to pursue Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Management at U.S.T, Kumasi.

In 1990, when the German government decided to put up a new and modern manufacturing plant for GIHOC Pharmaceuticals, Mark was among the team of staff who were trained outside Ghana with Fresenius AG, Bad Homburg and Wiemer Pharma, Rastat in Germany to build capacity to operate the new plant which was then under construction.

He was the consultant who helped in the establishment of Meacham Manufacturing Company in the latter part of 1994. He did production test-run for Meacham in December 1994 with some of his experienced machine operators from GIHOC Pharmaceuticals limited namely Enoch Tetteh and the late Edmund Akusikaro of blessed memory. At Meacham, he worked on part-time basis in the evenings to Mr. Samuel Asante-Boateng (now with the Food and Drugs Authority) who was then the full-time production pharmacist.

In 1996 when GIHOC Pharmaceuticals Ltd was divested to an American company known as Phyto-Riker, Mr. Owiredu left to assist the management of the then DANAF-CO Ltd to set up their own pharmaceutical manufacturing unit at Taifa in Accra. He served as the General Production Manager for DANAFCO from 1996 to 1999. At DANAF-CO, he single handedly trained Mr. Yaw Nyarko Sefah (Now production manager with Ernest Chemist) to better understand pharmaceutical manufacturing. Alongside working at Danafco, Mark Owiredu worked privately as a consultant in the establishment of the manufacturing wing of Kinapharma Ltd in 1998 and later took up a contract term for two years as a factory manager from October 1999 to September 2001. During this period, he worked together with Mr. Dhana-jay Tripathi (now CEO of Pharmanova Ltd) to help the company to manufacture a wide range of pharmaceutical products in the following dosage forms; oral tablets, capsules, powders, sachets and liquids. Together with the CEO of Kinapharma Ltd, Mr. Kofi Nsiah-Poku, who is also a pharmacist by profession, came up with the famous product "Akoma APC" which is still a household name in the whole country.

Mark Owiredu did not end his ambition to grow the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry in Ghana when he left Kinapharma Ltd. In fact, when Mr. Ernest Bediako Sampson,

TRIBUTE FROM MR TRIPATHI & MR ASANTE BOATENG



a pharmacist and the CEO of Ernest Chemists Ltd decided to go into pharmaceutical manufacturing, there was no better person to help him achieve his dream than Mark Owiredu. He was thus engaged by Ernest Chemist Limited (ECL) as a consultant to help the company establish its own manufacturing unit in Tema. Together with a team of architects and engineers they set to build ECL's first manufacturing plant.

It therefore came as no surprise when the management of ECL convinced Mark to stay on as the first Production Manager of the factory in November, 2001. He later became the Deputy General Manager of the company and finally, the General Manager, a position he held until his sudden demise.

In November 2005, Mark was invited by the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Safety of medicines until February, 2016. The FDA benefited immensely from his expertise as an industrial pharmacist and quality control expert on the committee.

Until his demise, Mark was also a visiting lecturer at the West African Post Graduate College of Pharmacist, where he was teaching students with the interest in working in the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry.

For the past nineteen years Mark Stephen Owiredu has been with ECL where he has helped build a solid team in pharmaceutical manufacturing. Through his leadership ECL locally produced pharmaceuticals which have become household brands. His technical ability in his chosen career and his devotion to duty was par excellence. His footprints are dotted all over the pharmaceutical industry in Ghana. Mark had the Midas touch that affected the lives of both individuals and companies in the country.

Mark Stephen Owiredu was a very energetic person who was devoted to his work and always left the office late to clear his desk.

As the years went by one thought he will slow down but this was not to be. To those of us close to him, he was a very healthy person who was always regular and punctual at work. On 1st June, 2020, Mark was as usual in the office and went about his work with a lot of enthusiasm. It came therefore as a surprise to learn of his sudden death on the morning of 2nd June, 2020.

The pharmaceutical industry and ECL has lost a great man. For those of us close to him we have lost a father, a mentor and a coach. Rest In Perfect Peace, Mark Stephen Yaw Owiredu.

CONDOLENCES CONDOLENCES CONDOLENCES



Biney Isaac Kweku (Pokuase Amanfrom)

This is how it ends. We came to meet the earth and we will leave it behind, but the only thing we must do is to teach our children the wisdom of the Lord. May your soul rest in perfect peace in the Lord.

Bob Owiredu

May the heavenly father keep his soul in his bosom. Amen.

Dhananjay Tripathi

Mr. Owiredu was a true brother. A very friendly and kind person. He was a great industrial pharmacist. We are very sad to hear about his sudden departure. Industry will feel his absence and great loss to us. We convey our deep condolences to the beloved family. RIP.

Augustine Asarfo-Adjei, ESQ (Nkrabeah & Associates, Asylum Down, Accra)

We are saddened with the sudden news of your death. We feel great for ever playing a role in your time on earth and the working relationship we had with you. It is our prayer that you rest in peace in the bosom of Abraham till we meet again.

Division of Drug Production and Quality Assurance (Ghana College of Pharmacists, Accra)

Mr. Mark Owiredu, your departure was too saddening and heartbreaking. You were always ready to share knowledge. You will always be remembered for your kindness and how gentle you were to everybody. Rest in Perfect Peace. Da yie.

Kwabena Abankwah Yeboah (Sharp Pharmaceuticals Ltd)

As I bring the sympathies and condolences to the wife and children and external family of Mark Owiredu on low demise. It is my prayer that the good lord God Almighty shall bring his peace and blessings to the family. The good work of Mark in the Pharmaceutical Industry and mentoring of many including myself shall never be forgotten. May the Lord God keep him in his bosom till we meet again when the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall arise. Rest in the Lord Mark Owiredu.

Solomon Ohene-Owusu (HR Manager-ECL -P.O. Box 3345, Accra)

An industrious employee who dedicated his life to help build the company, Ernest Chemists Limited. Rest well Mr. Owiredu. Till we meet again.

CONDOLENCES



Sanjeer Sakhorkar (Kaneshi- Unichem Industries Ltd.)

Hope that our Lord brings Mr. Mark Stephen's family the much-needed peace during this sad time. Our condolences to his whole family.

Pharm Name Ansah

You were an icon and a mentor to the Pharmaceutical Industry. Safe journey. We wish you well.

Dr. Sam NB Gaizer (IPA) Unichem Ltd)

You will be missed greatly by IPA. You lived a life worth it. You shared your knowledge to all who are prepared to learn. The whole IPA mourn you. Goodbye. Rest in Perfect Peace!! Due!! Due!!

CEO and staff of The Food & Drugs Authority (Accra)

Your contribution to the Pharmaceutical Industry in Ghana will always be marked. It was excellent. You earned yourself a place on the FDA'S First Technical Advisory Committee on Safety of Medical Products. You served as well. You will be missed. Rest in Perfect Peace.

Doris Attafuah (Victoris Pharmacy)

Owiredu, you were that perfect gentleman. God's call of you is by his timing. May your gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

Evelyn Owiredu (16 Brohum St, Dzorwulu)

Great achievers and gentle souls are not dead but asleep in the Lord. They say that the good die young and it is because they should not be corrupted by bad souls here. Sleep well good faithful servant. You will surely be missed. Love you loads. Evelyn (Sister).

Nyarko Sefah (Ernest Chemists Ltd)

You will forever be remembered for your love, support and above all the monitoring you gave me. Thank you for everything. May your soul rest in peace.

CONDOLENCES



Monica Owusu (Ernest Chemists Ltd)

May your soul rest in perfect peace. We have lost a very good person in our company. We hope your soul will guide us through without you. I will personally miss the phone calls I made with you in the mornings. We were always available for all the CEO asked of you. We thank you very much. Hopefully you will be in God's hands.

Ernest Bediako Sarpong (Ernest Chemist Ltd)

It is a great loss to the country, the profession, ECL and to the family. May the Almighty be with you.

Kwame Osei Owiredu & Siblings

...Wow...Woow. I hoped someone will wake me up for me to realise the news of your passing was all just a harsh nightmare.

It turns out I am very much awake, and the heavy news of you passing is indeed one of such realities of this life. Words cannot express how I have understood your passing in these times except for me to add my voice to the fact that you indeed made the mark...and in style too.

I wish you well as you journey on, Bro. Mark...I look forward to seeing you in amongst the stars by night.

Fare Thee Well, Bro. Rest in Perfect Peace.

Nana Amma Korantema Ansah Owiredu (Papa Timo's Children)

Brother Mark, My big brother! You always showed my mum siblings and I so much love! You brought us to Ofankor helped us secure our home! I am saddened by your sudden demise. May God, whom you have served, grant you eternal rest. Rest in perfect peace. You are missed dearly by us! Sister Ofeibea, Kofi Ntow, Panyin, Kakra and I, Nana Amma Owiredu, and our mother are so grateful. Rest in peace bro Mark. The entire Owiredu family will miss you.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GHANA

We bring condolences from the entire membership of the PSGH. Mark has been a senior and committed member of the society and contributed immensely to the grooming actin pharmacists including myself, Ben Botwe, The current president of the society. May his soul rest in the perfect peace of the Lord. Amen.

CONDOLENCES CONDOLENCES CONDOLENCES



Francis Osa Mensah Digber (P.O. Box LG 699 Legon/Logos Presby, Achimota College)

Mr. Mark Owiredu was such an affable person. He showed devotion to God in his service to the church where he supported with both his wealth and his time. He always showed initiative to the cause. He will be missed sorely.

Rev. E. S. Ofori (P.O. Box 5178, A/N)

Brother Mark has been a quiet and good Christian brother. His death is a big blow to the PCG, Logos Congregation and me personally. May his soul rest in peace.

GHANA PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

“At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has a course to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us”.

You have left an indelible impression in our minds and earned an unequal reputation in our hearts. The executive and the entire members of the Ghana Pharmaceutical Students Association, wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for this invaluable knowledge you have shared with us. Thank you for rekindling the lights in us and creating in us the enthusiasm to strive for greater heights. We will always be grateful to you for your unwavering support and undaunted kindness. And now we pray fervently that may the good Lord send you help from the sanctuary and support, refresh and strengthen you from Zion.

Ellen Owiredu & Siblings

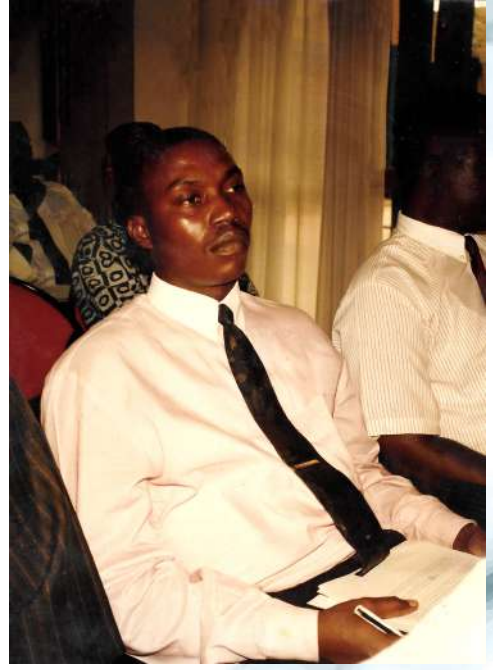
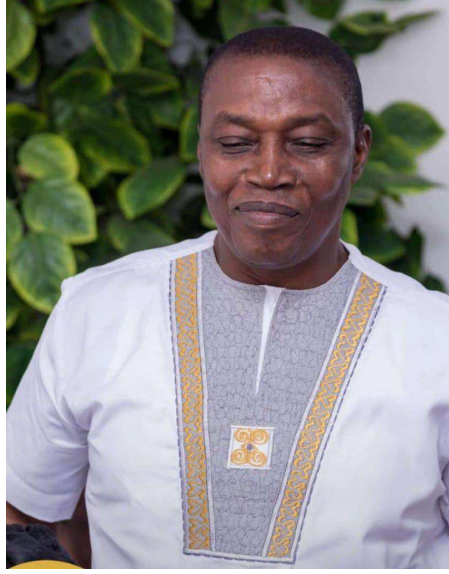
We're from the same shoot, the same family tree, into this world we sprouted, call it destiny. Those special memories of you will always make us smile. If only we could have you back for just a little while.

The fact that you are no longer here will always cause us pain but you're forever in our hearts until we meet again.

Rest well our dear Cousin Mark Owiredu

Faustie and children

Ooohhh it's sad we have to scribble this uncle Mark. One of the closet uncles we 've ever known since childhood. A soft spoken hero, kind at heart and very accommodating One we looked up to after the demise of our father it's unfortunate you also had to depart And leave us to our fate. Our tears would never dry and your legacy would forever be remembered. Da yie uncle Mark !!!





A P P R E C I A T I O N

The Children and the entire family of the late
DR. MARK STEPHEN YAW OWIREDU
wish to express their profound gratitude to
you all for your support.

God
Bless
You
❤️