

Celebration of *Life*



Madam
Theresa
ACHIAA BOATENG

a.k.a Mama Tess
1944 - 2020

76

On Friday, 28th August, 2020



A GRACEFUL
journey

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Burial Service: **Friday, 28th August, 2020**



FUNCTIONARIES



OFFICIATING CLERGY

- Apostle P. O. Ahwireng (Adabraka Area Superintendent)
- Apostle Christopher Affum Nyarko (TAC Bible College Principal)
- Pastor Daniel Kumi-Asare (Nii Borman District)
- Elder Samuel Akwayi Agyeman (Presiding Elder)
- Pastor Daniel Kumi-Asare (Convener - MC)
- Pastor Eric Kingsford Quansah (MC)

OTHER MINISTERS

- Arc Bishop Dr. Slessor Ofori-Atta
- Bishop Opoku Ware
- Apostle George Anim
- Apostle Paa Nii Ankarah
- Prophet Daniel Oppong
- Pastor Philip Mantey
- Pastor Harry Benson Owusu
- Rev. Isaiah Quansah

ORDER OF SERVICE - PART 1

1. Prelude Choruses - Praises Team
2. Opening Prayer - Elder Joseph Agyeman
3. TAC Hymn No. 58 - Yehowa nko na yenim no
4. Laying in State/File Pass - Clergy
Elders
Family
Others
5. TAC Hymn No. 314 - Hwe wo Nyamesom so yiye
6. Scripture Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
English - Deacon Felix Amarteifio
Twi - Brother Justice Gyambrah
7. Reading of Biography - Family Representative
8. Reading of Tributes -
9. TAC Hymns No. 297 - Akwantu bi wɔ hɔ a ye betu
10. Sermon - Pastorate

11. Prayers for Family -
12. Offertory
13. Announcements - Family Secretary
14. Closing Hymn , No. 31 - Wo nnwuma nyinaa da woase
15. Closing Prayer - Elder George Adu
16. Benediction - Pastorate

PART 2 - AT THE GRAVE SIDE

1. Opening Prayer -
2. TAC Hymn No. 304 - Ade rekye ade resa
3. Lowering of Casket -
4. TAC Hymn No. 306 - Mede nipa dua yi to hɔ
5. Committal -
6. Laying of Wreaths -
7. Vote of Thanks - Family Representative
8. Closing Prayer -
9. Benediction - Pastorate

BIOGRAPHY & TRIBUTE

MADAM THERESA ABENAA ACHIAA BOATENG

BY CHILDREN



Mrs. Theresa Boateng, our beloved Mother, was born Abena Achiaa, circa September 1944 in Jamasi Asante to Awura Afia Manu and the Sanaahene Opanyin Kwadwo Suburu. She earned her Middle School Leaving Certificate in 1967 from the Jamasi Roman Catholic Middle School and was forever after an ardent advocate for education and this she instilled into all her children as well as the several children of her siblings who came under her care for many years.

According to oral histories passed down, she was 15 years old when she first met the love of her life, a young ambitious Adisadel College student who hailed from Offinso, Ahenkro. He was soon to become a Captain in the Ghana Armed Forces, a lecturer at several prestigious institutions worldwide and a distinguished diplomat serving under the Commonwealth secretariat. He was in the person of the now late Captain (rtd.) Richard Kwabena Boateng, who himself passed away recently in 2016. Their's was a whirlwind romance that lasted nearly 60 years. Indeed his love letter to her in 2008 celebrating 50 years of their turbulent yet resilient love is an ode to cupid and a testament to the



Together they have 4 children. First, Mrs. Cecilia Sarpong, then Mr. Richard Kwasi Boateng, then Lawyer Mrs. Juliana Addo-Yobo and lastly the Afropolitan Gentleman known as Ricci Kwabena Boateng. She loved her children dearly and was often openly overprotective of them as she believed they deserved only the very best. She spoke occasionally with fondness of a young daughter that she lost after her second child. Her 9 grandchildren were her pride and joy and although they mostly all lived far away from her, she kept an entire box of many of their photos which she would proudly display at every opportunity.

It is common knowledge that she took responsibility of and cared for many of her siblings children as though they were her own for many years. In the mid seventies, she and her husband Captain Boateng, traveled to and lived in North America for several years. There she attended and went on to acquire a certificate in all branches of beauty culture at the Washington Heights Beauty School of New York in 1976. In the late 70's, she traveled with the family to London, England where they lived till they relocated to Jos Plateau in Nigeria. In the mid 80's she grew homesick and weary of the life of sojourning and returned to Ghana as it were to



attempt to establish herself in an era when everyone was fleeing the turmoil and economic crisis but being the fighter she was, she found ways to survive some of the hardest periods of her life.

In the early 90's she commenced what had been a lifelong dream to establish a centre of education that would help disadvantaged children

gain a competitive edge in this unkind existence and thus Jesus Saves School was born. This effort had far reaching consequences as her virtually NGO style of running the establishment meant that there were many who passed through its walls and got an education which they might have never achieved and today they are thriving as a result of her pursuing her dream. Although in her later years, the quasi NGO model proved unsustainable there are steps being taken to ensure her legacy JESUS SAVES SCHOOL is revived like the Phoenix and endures in her memory.

Mama Tess, as she came to be popularly called in her older years by her neighbours, students and her church community was a devoted Christian who would not hesitate to pray with and for anyone or share some word of inspiration from the bible with all and sundry that knew her. She went on to become a Deaconess of the Apostolic Church of Ghana and supported the establishment of a branch of the church on her land in Accra at no cost for many many years. We can attest that her prayers are responsible for many of the blessings that have rested upon our lives.

Anyone who knew the woman knew she was exceptional in many ways and even her persona almost always exuded dignity, calm and grace. She was generous to a fault, kind, lived in peace with all that came to her in peace and exhibited true love as her Christian values dictated. She loved children and nature, especially flowers. In 2008, the love of her life put it best in a word of advice to the youngest son when he said "Son, women like your mother aren't common." He should know, having known her for 50 years to that date.

Her death was sudden, most unexpected, and at a time when her health was as perfect as it had ever been. A cruel domestic accident precipitated by old age whisked this gem of a human being from a world that is now so much more the poorer without her. We were not ready and have been left stunned by the irreplaceable loss. In her final months she spoke often about dreaming of her late husband calling out to her. Did he come for her? The Bible says "For love is as strong as death..." Was this a manifestation? One day, when our watch

has ended and we join all of them in the glory that makes the bleakness of this temporary world bearable, we will find out. Till then we will have to bear with her inevitable yet too abrupt and unconsolable departure.

Abena Achiaa, Mrs. Boateng, Mama Tess, Ma or Baby Girl as she was fondly called, you are missed and will always be irreplaceable. If we never told you enough, thank you Ma for being who you were; a loving mother, a beautiful and kind soul, our very own Rock of Gibraltar who would fight to protect her own at any time and in any way. Your memory will never fade. We know it will take us every ounce of our energy to get through this but we know all your prayers over the years will strengthen us for the rest of our days. We love you Ma. Say hello to Captain for us and rest in peace until we are reunited with each other and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.





FAMILY'S TRIBUTE

As narrated by Mr. Samuel Kwabena "Boge" Asmah

A bena Achiaa was born circa September 1944 to the late Awura Afia Manu and the late Opanyin Kwadwo Suburu also known as Sanaahene and both hailing from Asante Jamasi. She was one out of 5 girls with 2 Brothers.

She was a caring and loving person. She loved and cared about her siblings and all her nieces and nephews. The entire family acknowledged that she was loving and kind. It was with her support that many of the members of the family and their children settled in Accra. She was welcoming and accommodating and gave shelter to them and because she was a loving and understanding person everyone could live with her with peace, love and understanding. She was known for her willingness to feed anyone that was hungry. It was impossible to come to her hungry and leave the same. She would speak peaceably to everyone and was a cheerful personality and she openly loved all the children of her siblings.

Her compassion is well known and she was a loving person to all. She loved all her siblings and their children and was there for all of them whenever they needed assistance that was she capable of offering. She was always welcoming and always sought to unify the family. It is clear that in her absence the family has lost a great treasure. She was a source of love, understanding and unity for the family. Our Mother was the peacemaker and reconciler of the family. Her absence has created a gaping hole in the family. She deserves all the gratitude and honour that the family can give her. At some point she supported almost every child of her siblings in one way or the other. From paying school fees, to clothing us, to feeding us and accommodating us in Accra, so her leaving us is a huge blow to the family.

The God you so diligently served be with you Mom, and receive you peacefully into the bosom of Abraham, until the rest of us your family also come to join you when the time is due. Sleep well.

TRIBUTETO

MADAM THERESA ABENAA ACHIAA BOATENG BY IN-LAWS

A light has been taken away... A voice cherished is lost. There's a vacant place in the house which only the Holy Spirit can soothe. A series of great memories filled sometimes with joyful tears. I wish God could have given you many more years, but God knows best and His time and timing cannot be questioned. You will remain forever in our thoughts! When we last saw you little did we expect it was going to be the last time we'll see you on this side of eternity!

Asew pa da yie!

(by Job)



Mama Theresa as we knew her. First impressions and observations after meeting her as an in- Law remained the same, more than half a century later. She was observant, down to earth, easy to approach and above all a people's person. She had a generous and open disposition to a fault. This attribute will be missed most. This the larger society cannot easily find a replacement. No! No NGO or educational set up will and can. This is how she related even with the educational enterprise she founded. The Jesus Saves Preparatory School.

She was called so many names.

We affectionately found ourselves calling her Coos. Her stance and approach to her in-laws , was typically that of a loving protective Mum! Non of her In- laws will and can accuse her of being over bearing or demanding. A Testament to which all her children have long lasting marriages to their spouses. This is a blessing and favor! We doff our hats for you, Coos.

There is no gain saying she was a church and religious person. Her property freely housed the Apostolic Church of Ghana-Chantan, Accra Branch for several years.

Rest In Peace dear Mum-In-Law. We miss you now and always will. Da yie oh! W2 odzogbaan! Fare Thee Well.

(by Humphrey)



TRIBUTE TO

MADAM THERESA ABENAA ACHIAA BOATENG BY GRANDCHILDREN

Grandma, you're gone but never forgotten. Your grandchildren loved you and shall never forget the precious moments that we shared with you when we were young.

How you used to sing as you encouraged us to eat when we refused to eat. You were loved by many as you welcomed all with open arms, and would give to others even while you lacked and as such your generosity attracted many to your home.

We shall remember you forever. May your soul rest in perfect peace.



TRIBUTE TO

MADAM THERESA ABENAA ACHIAA BOATENG

BY THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH-GHANA, NII BOIMAN DISTRICT, CHANTAN (ASCENSION) ASSEMBLY.

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

Death is unavoidable but your demise which occurred on 24th March, 2020 at the Achimota Hospital was a total shock to us. No one anticipated an early home call of our beloved Deaconess Theresah Achiaa Boateng but the one who gives has taken away.

Deaconess Theresah Boateng accepted the Lord Jesus

Christ as her personal saviour at Nii Boiman Central Church in the Nii Boiman District in 1985 and was baptized by then Pastor E.N. Abebrese the following year (1986) but worshiped with the Nii Okaiman 1 Assembly, now Power House in the Nii Okaiman District. Through her advice and initiative, Ascension Assembly was established at Chantan in 1995. Because of her love and commitment for God's work, she was



ordained Deaconess by Pastor S.B Aboagye in 2007 and finally became the fifth Local Women's Movement Leader for the period 2008-2015 devoid of complain for long term of service.

For her 25 years as a Member, Deaconess and Women's Movement Leader of the Assembly, she brought joy, help and hope to all people around her and healed broken relationships as a marriage counselor. She also demonstrated good leadership skills in the position she held as a Sunday School Teacher and Choir Leader.

She relentlessly made exceptional contributions such as offering her hall to start morning devotion which led to the establishment of Ascension Assembly and giving financially to support God's work. Besides, she freely offered her two classroom block for church service from the inception of the Assembly (1995) to 2012 when she whole heartedly sold one plot of her land to the Assembly purposely to keep The Apostolic Church-Ghana at Chantan. She was very instrumental in planning and development of the church.

Children were not left out of her benevolent gestures. She became the mother of the Children's Ministry; providing food and drink at every occasion and officers and members were not an exception. We are proud to recognize her personal sacrifices which made the dream of the church come true.

Members of the Nii Boiman District and Chantan (Ascension) Assembly of the Apostolic Church-Ghana, will not forget her countless contributions to the church and the body of Christ. As she embarks on a journey of no return, may her soul rest in perfect peace till we meet again on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Appreciation

The children and entire family wish to express their deepest gratitude to the innumerable people who stood with them, prayed for them, offered valuable advice and donations during the passing of their beloved

Theresa
ACHIAA BOATENG

*we are truly grateful.
May God richly bless you all.*