

# DR. GLORIA EMILY AWURAFUA OTIWAA DANQUAH

5th August1938 to 22nd March 2020

## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

Friday, 1st May 2020

#### PART I

#### **OFFICIATING MINISTER**

Rev. Canon Victor Leon Acquaye St. Monica Anglican Church (Kaneshie Accra)

- 1. Introduction/Sentences
- 2. Opening Hymn A&M 165
- 3. Collection
- 4. Bible Reading John 11:17-27
- 5. Hymn A&M 184
- 6. Biography
- 7. Hymn A&M 265
- 8. Sermon
- 9. Liberal

# PART II - AT THE GRAVE SIDE

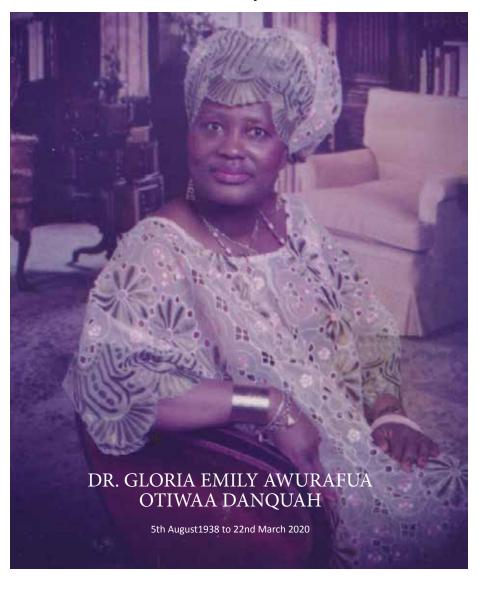
Ahen Nana Cemetry, Kyebi

### **OFFICIATING MINISTER**

Rev. Father Nathan Duodo Odoi Catechist Edward Gyasi St. Mark Anglican Parish, Kyebi

- 1. Opening Hymn
- 2. Committal and Prayers
- 3. Laying of Wreaths
- 4. Vote of Thanks
- 5. Closing Hymn

# IN LOVING Memory



# BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE DR. GLORIA EMILY OTIWAA DANQUAH

The Christian Apologist, Ravi Zacharias said recently and I quote

"Life is full of boxes.
We live in a box,
We sit in a box and ultimately
We will be carried away in a box."

#### Gloria Emily Otiwaa Danquah,

affectionately known by some as; Dr Danquah. Sister Gloria, Glor, Glo, Glorie, Awurafua, Aleefia, Adidi, Nii n33, was the first daughter born, on Friday, 5th August 1938, to Papa Kwabena Twum Ampofo Danquah, (Papa KT), a State Secretary and magistrate and Mrs Margaret Edith Danquah, Teacher Maggie, both of blessed memory.

Papa KT was always interested in any well performing student. He would push them as far as they would want to go. Moreover, being a teacher, Teacher Maggie took Gloria and her other young children to school with her every day. Her children would stay and play under the teacher's desk. This combination of encouraging parents had a grave influence on all the very intelligent Gloria and her siblings.

Gloria began her education at the Kyebi Government Primary school. As a result of her mother's transfers throughout the years, Gloria also attended Obo Kwaku



Primary School and Oda Primary School.

Upon completing her primary education, she was admitted at Mmofratuo Middle School based on merit. From Mmofratuo, she sat for the Common Entrance Examinations and passed with flying colours. She, therefore, gained government scholarship to attend Wesley Girls High School for her secondary education. In Form 5, she passed her GCE 'O' levels Examination and was admitted to Sixth Form at the same school.

At the time WGHS did not have science laboratories, so there was an arrangement for the sixth formers to join their male counterparts at Mfantsipim Boys' School. Those were interesting times for her and students of both schools as they had interactions to join each other without any restrictions, as was the norm at all boys' and all girls' boarding schools.

Papa KT as usual was proud of her and she became "daddy's little girl". For example, Papa would allow her to 5th August1938 - 22nd March 2020 5th August 1938 - 22nd March 2020

come home on holidays with a friend and classmate, Auntie Ellen Ofori -Atta to keep her company although the house was full of siblings, nieces and cousins.

The story is told of a famous incident when Papa tasked the boys in the house to get a frog so Glorie could perform some experiments on the frog. This experiment was conducted in the compound and all the children were asked to squat around her and with the Petromax light in those days, all the children watched the "doctor" perform an operation. This was the beginning of many medical exploits.

She completed 6th form in 1959 and so was an "old boy" of Mfantsipim School and an "old girl" of Wesley Girl's High School. years later, she would become the first president of the old girls association of Wey Gey Hey in Northern America. After 6th form, she gained another Ghana government scholarship to attend Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. There she studied medicine from 1960 to 1966.

After obtaining her initial medical certificate, she did her housemanship in Mile End Hospital in London and Kingston Hospital in Kingston, England. During her time in London that she met Dr. Robert Kwasi Frempong Akosah, a then surgeon from Akyim Tafo and they got married in 1968. Unfortunately, they were separated after 2 years. She continued working and improving herself by doing a course at the Royal London Liverpool University Hospital and became a Paediatrician. Glorie moved to Ghana from London after her postgraduate cours to fulfill her obligation to the Government. She

was posted to the Effiankwanta Hospital in Sekondi. There she was blessed with her only son, Kwasi on 10th August, 1969, 5 days after her 31st birthday. After a while she went back to the UK and left Kwasi with her late sister Susana Ofori-Yentumi and family. She was very happy to have Kwasi and said at the time "I have prayed to God to give me a son and promised God that if He gave me a son, as a Pediatrician all the children that come to me professionally, will be my children." That was exactly what happened.

She stayed in the UK for some years working at various hospitals like Royal Free hospital and Kingston Hospital. After a while in the UK she left for the US and Canada for career opportunities. In the US, she was in Arizona, where she worked and attended a course in Neonatology from University of Arizona and became a Neonatologist. Whilst in the US, Kwesi joined his mother in Arizona and at age 12. At his secondary educational stage, Glorie sent Kwasi to Epsom Boarding School in the UK and subsequently, to Kings College for his undergraduate studies. She then moved to Wilmington, Delaware and worked in a hospital there. From Wilmington, she moved to Washington DC and established her own two private clinics.

After some time in Washington DC, she came back to Ghana and had a job at the Police Hospital as a Neonatologist There are countless parents who still give testimonies about how she saved their children and are grateful for it. She then went to Durban South Africa and worked with a hospital there. After a few years she established her own clinic there as well. Unfortunately, Kwasi passed on in London on 6th November, 2003. She

came back from South Africa and went back to London to attend the inquest of her son, Kwasi. She stayed in London for another 10 years and when she stared having physical challenges, she moved back to Ghana and stayed until her passing, on the morning of March 22nd, 2020.

Awurafua was full of life and indeed, she was life itself. She was very active socially in all the countires she lived in and she made an indelible mark on most children and parents' lives with her medical gift.

Due to the restrictions imposed by the global pandemic, namely Corona Virus, we have had to give a summary of all the tributes you would have heard today from parents, friends, colleagues and even some of the godsons and daughters she had.

"It is with sadness, a heavy heart and deep sense of loss that I pay this short tribute to my very good friend "Glo", as I affectionately called her. Times are not normal to enable me bid you a noble farewell. We met in 1953 as "homos" at Wesley Girls High School. Our friendship has lasted almost 67 years. We thank God for bringing us together and for all the good things we have done for each other; they are too numerous to count. GLO May God grant you Perfect Rest till we meet again. Nantie yie madamfopa,!!!" Her friend and classmate, Mrs. Ellen

Ofori-Atta

As was stated earlier, these are not normal times and therefore we apologize for not reading and sharing every tribute from friends, family members,

classmates and groups but we promise that after the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, and when the final funeral rites are performed we will come out with a more befitting funeral booklet. Please pardon us.

As her family, we take this opportunity to thank God for her life of 82 blessed years. We are eternally grateful to God and we give Him all the glory.

Awurafua, Otiwaa yaaba, Aleefia, Glo, Glorie, Adidi, Niin3, NANTIE YIE.!!!!!!!

Onyame Daada noa omfa wonsie na onhw3 wo so. Yekyia Papa ni abusuafuor womo adikan nyinaa.





