

Celebration of Life

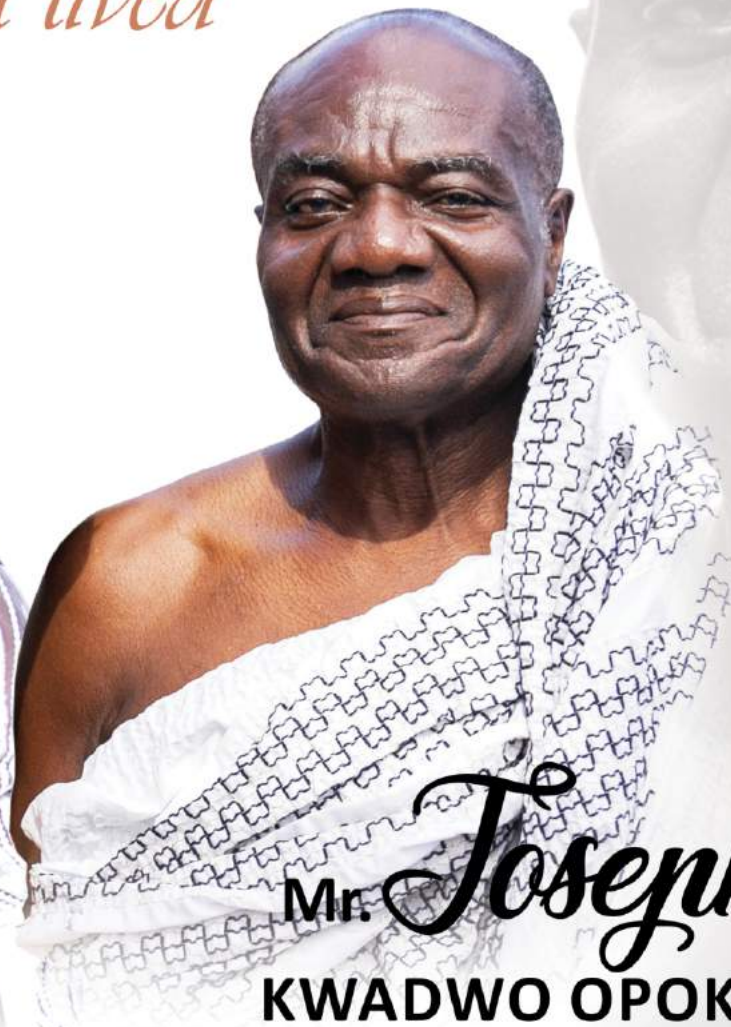
Well lived



73
AGED

Mrs. *Leticia*
OHENE-DARKO OPOKU

a.k.a. Nana Abena Nyantakyiwa



73
AGED

Mr. *Joseph*
KWADWO OPOKU

a.k.a. Joe Power

MEMORIAL SERVICE, BURIAL THANKSGIVING
ON THE 12TH MARCH, 2022 TIME: 9:00AM



To those I love

When I am gone, release me, let me go I
have so many things to see and do You
mustn't tie yourself to me with tears. Be
happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love.

You can only guess How much you gave to me in
happiness I thank you for the love you have shown
me But now it is time I traveled on alone.

So grieve a while for me if you grieve you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust it's only
for a while that we must part so bless the memories
with your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on So if you need
me, call and I will come Though you can't see or
touch me I'll be near And if you listen with your
heart, you will hear all of my love around you soft
and clear: And then, when you must come this way
alone. I'll greet you with a smile and welcome you
home



ORDER OF SERVICE FUNERAL OF ELDER & MRS. OPOKU

OFFICIATING MINISTERS

1. Archbishop Dr. Francis Akwaboah
General Overseer (CHRISTAIN HOPE MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL)
2. Bishop Joseph Osei Kwame
(CHM – Headquarters)
3. Bishop Peter Osei Kofi
(CHM – Accra)
4. Apostle Ekow Takyi Appiah
(CHM – Sunyani)

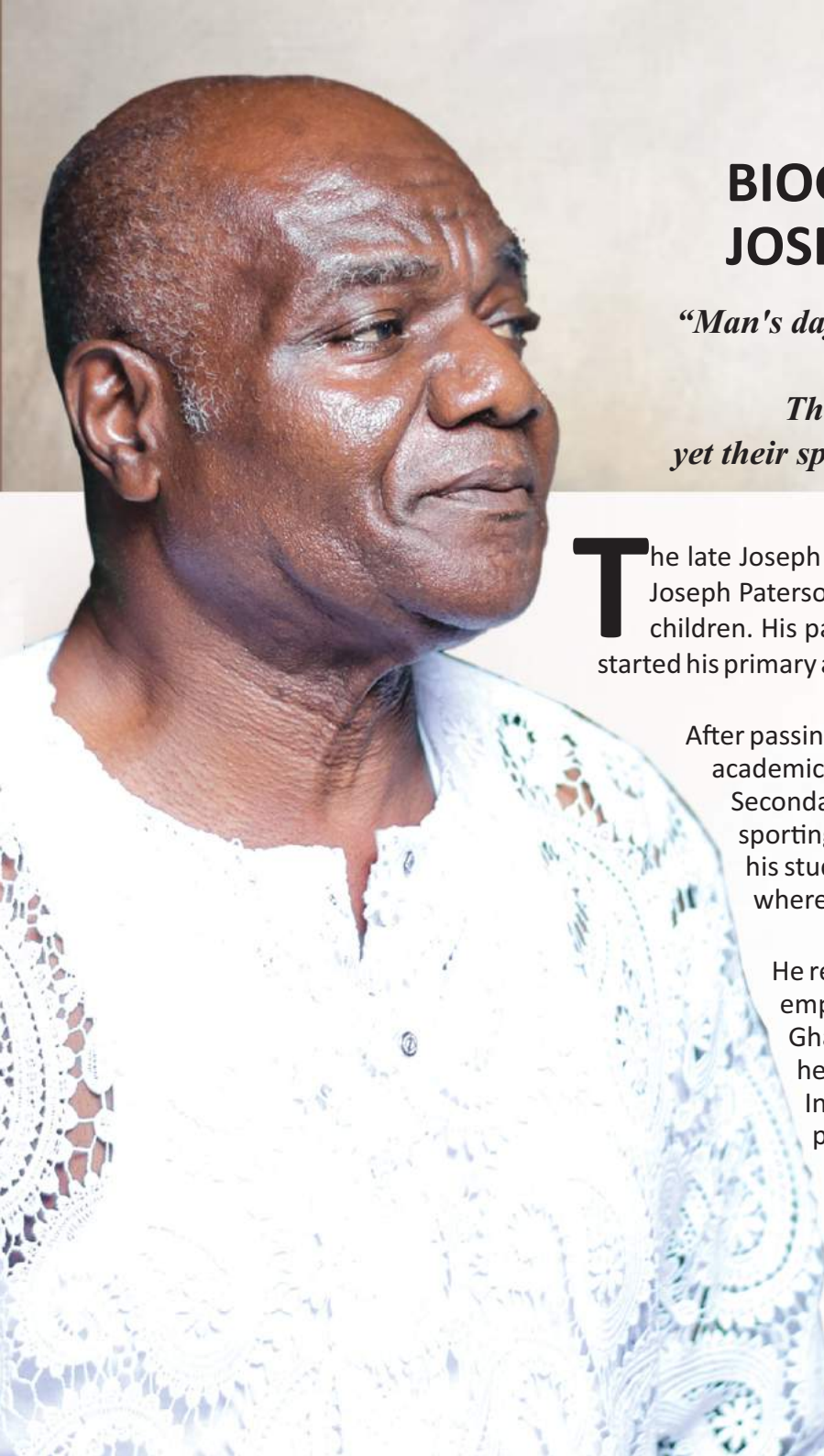


PART ONE

1. OPENING PRAYER
2. PRAISE AND WORSHIP
3. BIOGRAPHY AND TRIBUTE
4. SCRIPTURE READING
5. SONG MINISTRATION
6. SERMON
7. PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY
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9. CLOSING PRAYER
10. ANNOUNCEMENT

PART TWO

1. PRAYER
2. SONG MINISTRATION
3. LAYING OF WREATHS
4. VOTE OF THANKS
5. CLOSING PRAYER
6. BENEDICTION



BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE: JOSEPH KWADWO OPOKU (JOE POWER)

“Man's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have sets limits he cannot exceed” Job 14:5.

The length of our days is seventy or eighty if we have strength, yet their span is but trouble and sorrow. For they quickly pass and we fly away

The late Joseph Kwadwo Opoku was born seventy three years ago (8th November, 1948) at Adum Kumasi to Mr. Joseph Paterson Opoku and Madam Elizabeth Addae both of blessed memory. He was the sixth born of eleven children. His parents named him Kwadwo Opoku and he was nicknamed Kwadwo Boye or Kwadwo Ketewa. He started his primary and later, middle school education at the Ramseyer Presbyterian School at Adum, Kumasi in 1954.

After passing the common entrance examination, he was admitted to the Prempeh College, Kumasi in 1963/64 academic year. Due to financial constraints he was withdrawn from Prempeh College to Asanteman Secondary School as a day student from 1967-1969. Because of his teeming (fans as a result of his various sporting activities) his father decided to send him back to boarding school to enable him concentrate on his studies. In the 1969/70 academic year, he became a student of Konongo Odumase Secondary School, where he obtained credit in the West African Examination Certificate.

He relocated to Accra in 1972 following an invitation by his sister, Mrs Josephine Manu. In Accra, he was employed by the Vanguard Assurance Company from 1972 to 1978. Joe joined the exodus of Ghanaians to Nigeria to seek greener pastures there. In 1979, he therefore relocated to Nigeria, where he got employment with Nigeria Electricity and Petroleum Authority (NEPA) in Oshogbo, Osun State. In 1985, he once again relocated to Britain. Where he took various certificate courses in computer programming, photography and video technology.

He worked as a professional video operator and covered various events including birthdays, engagements, weddings, christening, funeral celebrations etc. His handiwork was superb.

Joe's hobbies and interests were sports. He was a good sports man and very talented since he



BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE: JOSEPH KWADWO OPOKU (JOE POWER) Cont...

was endowed with physical strength and skills. The strength he displayed in athletics and especially while playing table tennis earned him the accolade “JOE POWER”- a name he was to be known forever by his colleagues and numerous fans.

He became the Ashanti Region table tennis champion and a silver medalist in table tennis at the National Inter - Collegiate Schools Competition in Accra in 1964, when he succumbed to Okine Quaye, the then Ghana National and West African Table Tennis Champion.

He was a good footballer and played for the school teams at Prempeh College, Asanteman and Konongo Odumasi Secondary Schools. He was a good striker for Ashanti heroes, a then Division 2 soccer football in Kumasi. During his brief stay in Nigeria, he played for NEPA football club in Oshogbo, Nigeria. In all the three secondary schools he attended, he also played hockey and participated in the Inter – College Athletics Competitions in shot putt, high jump, 100 metres and relays. He also represented Ashanti Regional Teams in table tennis athletics, hockey and soccer during the National Day Games. He was a soccer enthusiast of Asante Kotoko (Kumasi) and Tottenham Hotspurs(Britain) football clubs.

Joe was a quiet, honest, humble, gentleman with a calm disposition and very devoted to his family. Always smiling, he made friends easily with the young, youth and the elderly. He dressed smartly wherever he went and was punctual at any meeting he attended. He was a dedicated and devoted Christian. A Presbyterian but he became a member of the Christian Hope Ministries International Church in Britain and Ghana until his home call.

He enjoyed every assignment he was called to undertake for the Church, whether supervision of Church building project, Bank transactions, attending weddings or funeral celebrations in Kumasi with his lovely and dear wife, Leticia.

Ill- health plagued him and his wife during the past year. The medical Doctors

prescribed the best medicine for him. His children, son in-law and siblings fasted, prayed, encouraged and cared for him, hoping that he would recover. Unfortunately, his condition worsened.

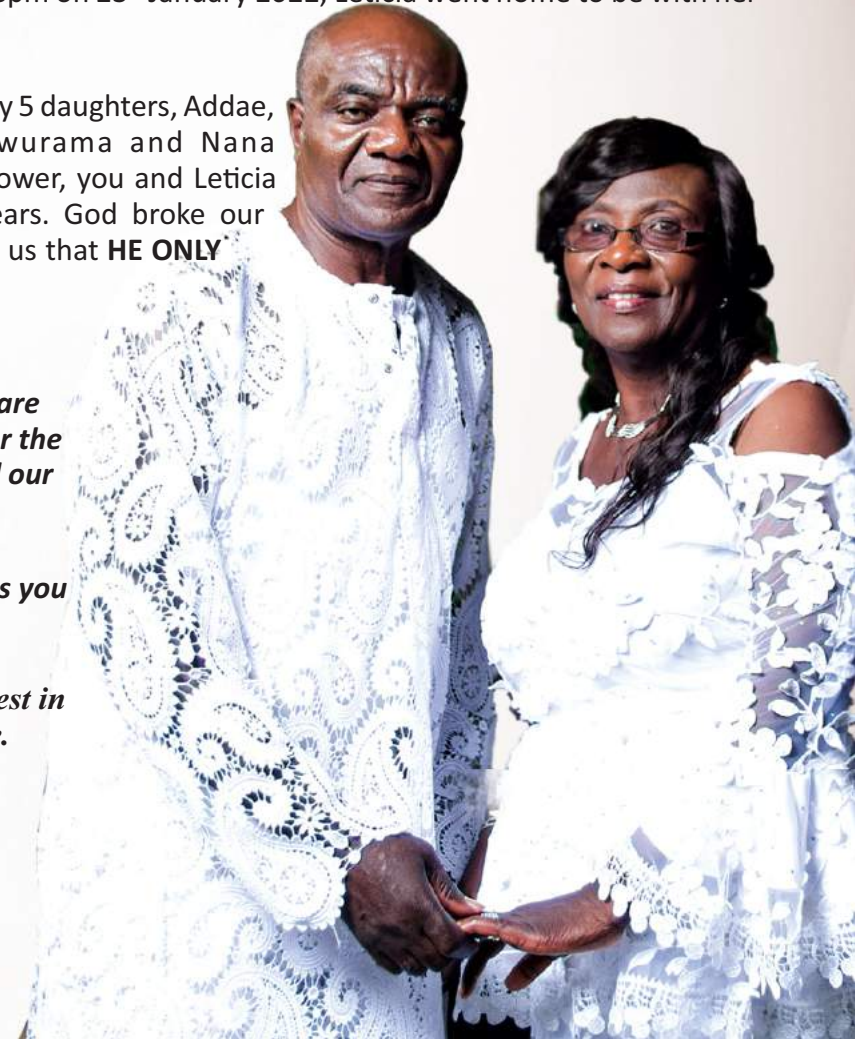
On the 21st October, 2021, Joe was peacefully called home to eternal rest. The news of Joe's demise shattered any hope of his wife's recovery. In life, Joe was very close to his wife and adored her. Death laid its icy hands on her in a London hospital far away from his darling husband Joe. After a brief period of hospitalization at 8pm on 23rd January 2022, Leticia went home to be with her maker.

Joe was survived by 5 daughters, Addae, Saah, Abena, Ewurama and Nana Addae. Joe, Joe power, you and Leticia have left us in tears. God broke our hearts to prove to us that **HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST!**

Joe and Let, we are deeply grateful for the way you touched our lives

We will really miss you both of you

Joe and Leticia rest in perfect peace.





BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE: MRS LETICIA OPOKU

*Then I heard a loud voice from heaven saying to me,
Write Blessed are they who die in the Lord from now on
Yes says the Spirit that they may rest from their Labor and their work follow them.
Rev 14:13*

The late Mrs. Leticia Ohene- Darko Opoku was born on the 27th of January 1948. She was the second born among eight siblings on her mother's side. She also has other siblings also from his father side too. Her parents were Mr. Emmanuel Joshua Ohene-Darko and Madam Grace Attahfuah both of blessed memory.

Leticia aka Nana Abena Nyantakyiwa was born in Akim Oda in the Eastern region and attended Oda Presbyterian school. In furtherance of her educational ambition after Middle School she joined her daddy at Wadie – Adwumakase in the Ashanti Region where they relocated to Sunyani because of the nature of her fathers work.

She worked as a Ward Assistant at Goaso hospital and later went to Mampong Nursing and Midwifery school and graduated as a Midwife. She started working at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) for a while and then travelled to Nigeria to work at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital at Oshogbo in Oyo state. Leticia was blessed with two sons; Rev Patrick Appiah and Edward Nana Sarfo before meeting her husband Mr Joseph Kwadwo Opoku. In 1978 while on holidays in Accra Leticia met Mr Opoku at the Vanguard Assurance office in Accra where Mr Opoku was then working.

They became friends; Leticia returned to her post in Nigeria and continued to communicate with Mr Opoku via letters. In 1979 Leticia and Mr Opoku tied the knot and he later joined her in Nigeria after getting a job with Nigeria Electricity popularly known as NEPA. Their union was blessed with three girls; Abena Baffowa Opoku, Ama Gyamea Opoku and Nana Ama Addae Opoku.



BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE: MRS LETICIA OPOKU Cont...



Mr. and Mrs. Opoku later moved to London during the time foreigners were being deported from Nigeria, specifically 1983. As a dedicated Christian by her upbringing she rededicated her to towards God works.

She had and became committed to the Christian Hope International in London, where she served as the Assistant Women's group leader and also a member of the Marriage Committee both in London and Accra-Ghana.

In 2015, Mr. and Mrs. Opoku decided to relocate back home and settled. Five years into their return, she complained of being ill and was admitted at the Legon hospital where she was transferred to the Korle- Bu Teaching hospital.

She later asked to go back to London for treatment because of her experience with proper healthcare services in the U.K. On the 23rd of January 2022, we received news of her passing in to Glory.

Mum, your children will miss you dearly. We wish we could hug you one last time.

Fare thee well our sweet mum.
May the good lord keep you safe till we meet again.

Rest in peace

Nana Abena Nyantakyiwa

Damirifa Due.

TRIBUTE BY SIBLINGS TO THE LATE JOSEPH KWADWO OPOKU

*“I shall pass through this world but once.
Any good thing that I can do or any kindness that I can show
To any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it.
For I shall not pass this way again.”*



Joe, popularly known as 'JOE POWER', due to the strength and skills he exhibited in any sporting activity, especially Table Tennis, was our brother. He was the sixth-born of our parents' eleven children. He was named Joseph Kwadwo Opoku. When we were young we used to tease him because of his smaller mouth, slightly big nose and well built stature.

He resembled our late grand uncle (Nana Koofie of Fiema in the Brong East Region) so much that one would think that he was his twin brother. That is genetics for you. Joe rose to fame very early in life, when he was a student at Prempeh College, Kumasi in 1963. His sporting activities took a greater part of him. He became the Ashanti Regional Table Tennis Champion and a silver medalist at the National Inter-collegiate Schools Table Tennis Competition in Accra (1964).

He became very popular in his youth and even in his old age. People just got attracted to him as if by magnet. We his siblings were even recognized as Joe Power's siblings wherever we went. Indeed, we felt proud that Joe Power was our brother. He would have been a world renowned sportsman, but that was not to be.

Our Dad did not encourage him in his sporting activities since he wanted him to become a lawyer, as was the norm then. In 1972, his elder sister, Mrs Josephine Manu invited him to Accra (after his Secondary School education), where he got

employed at Vanguard Assurance Company. That was the beginning of his travels, from his home-base in Kumasi to Accra, then Nigeria and finally to United Kingdom. After a brief bout of two years back home, he spent forty seven (47) years away from his parents' home in Kumasi. Some of his siblings lost touch with him whilst others managed to interact positively with him. However, complete relationship with all his siblings was restored when he finally returned from United Kingdom to Ghana.

Joe showed concern for our children's welfare. Whenever he visited us, he always talked sports (especially football) with them. He was very appreciative of whatever service was rendered to him. He enjoyed whatever food was served him and made you feel like you were the best cook in the whole world.

Joe was a kind, calm, unassuming, soft spoken, honest and respectful gentleman. He exuded confidence in whoever came in contact with him. He was a Christian who devoted most of his life to the service of the Lord. He was very kind, trustworthy and serviceable. We were therefore not surprised to hear that he was chosen to manage the financial transactions of his church (Christian Hope Ministries International), both in United Kingdom and in Ghana. Sometimes you would call him and he would tell you that he was at the church premises supervising the building project under construction. That was Joe for you.



TRIBUTE BY SIBLINGS TO THE LATE JOSEPH KWADWO OPOKU Cont...

He did not bear grudge against anybody who hurt him. Rather, he was very secretive about the challenges in his life, both in Britain and Ghana. His wonderful, patient wife, Leticia stood as a strong pillar behind him physically and spiritually always to lift him up. Thank you Let and your children for making life bearable for Joe.

He was a responsible, caring and fantastic husband and father, who adored his family. Joe your chance encounter with Leticia in 1978 at Vanguard Assurance Company, Accra which brought both of you together was not a mistake. Leticia was Joe's soul mate in life and in death.

Leticia was taken ill and was flown to Britain (in a wheel chair) for medical treatment. We invited him to spend some time with us in Kumasi after Let was away but he kept on postponing the time. Then he fell ill. When she heard about Joe's condition, Leticia flew in to Ghana (still in a wheel chair) to spend one month with her dear husband, Joe. His condition improved a little while she was here but he soon relapsed after Leticia returned to Britain (still in a wheel chair) to continue her medical treatment.

Joe, even though you were passing through excruciating pain, your innate qualities of strength, endurance and strong passion for life helped you endure the pain. Pain, that was so unbearable to watch you suffer. You bore it all with a bold attitude and never complained. We joined together with your children, son in-law and encouraged you. We fasted and prayed for divine intervention for both of you, but to no avail. The same attacks that plagued you and Leticia claimed your lives.

On 21st October, 2021 at the 37Military Hospital, Accra (Ghana), you passed on to be with your Maker. On 23rd January, 2022, Leticia was peacefully recalled home to eternal rest in a London hospital after a brief hospitalization. It was a big blow to us. We had wished that Leticia would recover and come to Ghana to say good bye to her dear husband, Joe, but it was not to be.

Joe was survived by five (5) daughters- Addae, Saah, Maa Abena, Ewurama and Nana Addae.

Joe and Leticia, the Good Lord has called you home, where there is no moaning, pain, sorrow, worry and weeping. We will miss both of you. Joe seemed to tell us that, "I know you love us, but we have gone where we can walk on golden streets and enjoy heavenly breeze.

Where we can wear golden clothes and shoes forever.

We have gone where we can dance and run again.

As we wave goodbye for the last time,

We leave with you our words of encouragement, hope, memories, dreams, warmth and our love.

Smile with us as we go home to rest,

For we are TIRED. “

Joe, Joe Power and Leticia,

Fare Thee Well

May Your Souls Find Eternal Peace

And

Rest In The Lord.

Amen

TRIBUTE BY CHILDREN

*To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven;
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant,
And a time to pluck what has been planted;
“Ecclesiastes 3:1-2”*



Words cannot express how sorrowful we are, seeing our parents lie before us motionless this morning. The once strong and energetic father and loving mother have parted company with us and been called to glory for a higher service.

Mum and Dad were loving parents who were committed to loving us unconditionally. They, at all material moments required us to uphold good character and to exhibit the best of courtesies wherever we found ourselves. And you can be sure that they will reprimand you when in their view, your action or inaction was inappropriate. Daddy loved to make friends and have conversations with whoever he meets; he had a very good ability to socialize with anyone he met, whereas mum was more or less of an introvert. However, they had a beautiful relationship to which they were committed to making it work

Our Parents were very modest but when it came to the welfare of this family, they made sure we lacked nothing. They went all the length to ensure that our needs were met. They were very honest and will not compromise values such as honesty, dignity and respect for authority. People who knew them will attest to these facts.

Mum and Dads relationship budded in Nigeria and took them to the United Kingdom and finally back to Ghana over a span of forty years.

Our Dad did not have the opportunity of pursuing higher education but was

committed to learning and a passionate lover of technology, his knowledge and insight in that discipline was quite impressive. Even at old age, he had a very composed mind and could recollect a lot of stuff in that regard. Our parents loved the things of God. They were committed church members who attended Church (Christian Hope Ministry International) and also participated in all Church activities faithfully, both in Ghana and London.

The demise of our parents is one that has left us all in shock considering the fact that they both departed from this Earth within the same period. Some few months back Daddy was taken ill and even in the course of the illness, he tried to stay strong considering the fact that he was a very energetic and healthy person. Unfortunately, his sickness prolonged further than we had anticipated which led to his demise. Mummy's demise is one that took all of us with shock as we never saw this coming, considering the fact that she looked and sounded healthy and by all indications, we all knew she was responding to treatment.

Dad, Mum, we have missed your conversations and words of advice. How we have missed your smiles already. Thank you for the care and guidance you gave to us. We will always remember you.

Fare thee well Dad & Mum. May the Almighty God keep you in his bosom till we will meet again.

Rest in peace Da Yie.



TRIBUTE BY NEPHEWS AND NIECES FOR UNCLE JOE POWER.(READ BY HON. SYLVIA MANU)

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints. Psalm 116:15 “



We pay tribute solemnly and with a heavy heart today, the passing and call to eternal glory on the 21st October, 2021, of our dear uncle Joseph Kwadwo Opoku. Uncle Joe was affectionately and popularly referred by friends, loved ones, mates and acquaintance as “JOE POWER”

He was born as the 6th child of eleven children to our grandparents, Opanyin J.P. Opoku and Madam Elizabeth Afua Addae, both of bless memory, who hailed from Nkoranza in the Brong Ahafo region (now Bono East Region). Kofi Darkwa, Kwame Opoku Kyeremanteng, Kofi Temeng and I had the opportunity to spend our youthful years with him while growing up in Asafo, Kumasi with our grandparents.

When we moved from Kumasi to live with our mother, Mrs Josephine Manu (Dee Josephine Opoku), Uncle Joe came to live with us. He was employed at Vanguard Assurance Company. Those were such wonderful and memorable times. We had our special greetings “Groovie, Groovie” and he would respond, “Groovie” with a smile.

Later he travelled to Nigeria and then to London where he lived most of his life. Uncle Joe was a gentle, quiet, always smiling, soft spoken, staunch

Christian, supportive brother, reliable uncle, devoted but strict father and a good friend to remember.

One family gathering at Dansoman when his daughter, Akosua Saah came to introduce her would be - husband to us. With a stern face, Uncle Joe frankly asked the young man if he was sure he could take care of his daughter and make her happy.

He did not loose opportunity to advise us about life's happenings and also encourage us whenever we felt life had been unpleasant to us. He was always willing to help us as best as he could and saw to it that whatever we did or had to do, we went about it very well. In fact his advice and guidance helped to shape our lives for the better. Having grown in a large family, we were all Uncle Joe's children (41 nephews and nieces).

Although his travel kept him away from us, Uncle Joe never spared a moment to keep in touch and inquire about what every one of us was doing. He was avid sports fan, having been sportsman himself and cherished the entertainment and sportsmanship this generated in us.

In fact, when I attended Konongo Odumasi Secondary School, I found favour with the school's head coach because of the legacy Uncle Joe Power and my



TRIBUTE BY NEPHEWS AND NIECES FOR UNCLE JOE POWER. (READ BY HON. SYLVIA MANU) Cont....

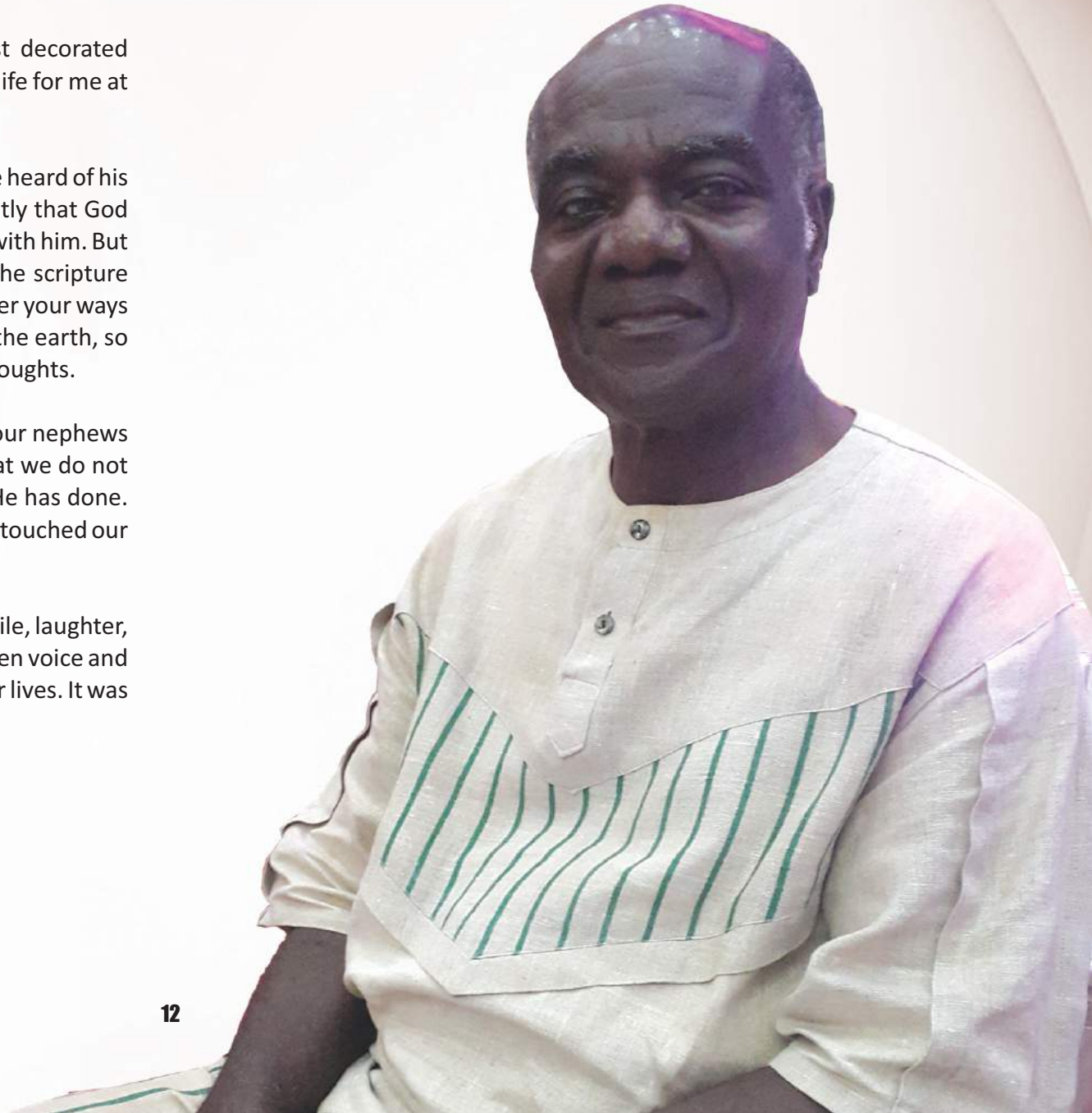
Auntie Grace had left in the school. He was one of the most decorated athletes the school had ever had. Since they were my relations, life for me at Konongo Odumasi was pleasant and a memorable one.

Uncle Joe was taken ill and had not been for some time. When we heard of his admission at the 37 Military Hospital (Accra), we prayed fervently that God would heal him and give us the opportunity to spend more time with him. But our good Lord, we believe, had other plans for him, because the scripture says in Isaiah 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts neither your ways are 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.

We stand here with all your children (our cousins) and also as your nephews and nieces (41 of us) to celebrate your life. We pray and ask that we do not weep but give thanks and glory to God for all the great things He has done. We are very grateful to you Uncle Joe for the time and period you touched our lives when you were with us on this earth.

We will miss you very much, Uncle Joe. We thank you for your smile, laughter, stern, knowing gaze, your words of wisdom, your calm, soft spoken voice and above all your love, encouragement, advice and prayers upon our lives. It was a privilege to have you as our uncle, we thus say,

***Fare thee well, Uncle Joe. Dampirifa Due,
Nyame emfa wo kra nsie yie.
Amen***





TRIBUTE BY IN-LAWS TO MR AND MRS. OPOKU

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; John 11:25

Today, our eyes are filled with tears and we are heartbroken to see the mortal remains of our cherished father and mother in-laws Mr. and Mrs. Opoku this morning.

Joe Power, it is hard to accept that you are no longer physically with us. We cannot believe we are putting words together to share with people how much you meant to us.

You accepted us and loved us like your own sons. Your legacy was that of an opened- minded and inclusive person. He was kind, great to be with and always made you feel at home anytime we were with him. He would make us feel comfortable and welcome which came to him naturally.

He liked his grandchildren very much, Joe Power we already miss you, especially your conversations on the realities and challenges of our daily life's .We will always cherish your advice to always love the Lord and do his will. Our father- in- law was a man who truly had the spirit of appreciation embedded in his fiber. He would always express his appreciation for things we might even take for granted. We are proud to be your sons in law and we had an amazing relationship. We know that he is smiling down at us from heaven.

Aunty Leticia the news of your passing away came to us on Sunday night 23rd January 2022. This was very sad and heart breaking news and we hardly slept that night as we were overwhelmed with tears.

Maa, as we affectionately called you, your departure has denied us the opportunity to express our deepest love for you for all the sacrifices, support and amazing love you gave us and many others. We greatly admired your beauty, courage and love for God. You took care of us your grandchildren very well. We are eternally grateful. We have lost a gorgeous, generous and most of all God fearing Mother –In-Law. We prayed and hoped that you would be well but God had need of you. Our hearts are broken Maa but we assure you that, we will take good care of your lovely daughters and, we remain comforted by the truth that you are indeed with your creator.

We thank God for the time we spent together. We are also very grateful for coming back home to help take care of your grandchildren. These moments will forever be cherished.

Our prayer is that, the good Lord will shed his divine light upon your path so you may be guided by it and comfort us with his divine love so our hearts may be warmed.

From Alfred, Ekow, Emmanuel, Nana Kay and Ben He love you Joe Power, till we meet again May your soul Rest in Perfect Peace From Ekow, Nana Kay and Ben **WE HAVE A GORGEOUS LADY WHO WILL FOREVER BE MISSED.**

*We hope both of you will no longer suffer
Damirifa due*



TRIBUTE BY SIBLINGS TO MRS. LETTICIA OHENE-DARKO OPOKU

*"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.
(Revelation 14:13)*

Nana Abena Nyantakyiwa affectionately called "SISTER" by all her younger Siblings because she was the second oldest child of on her mother's side while she has other siblings too from her side. Being the second eldest child, Sister Leticia started work as a Nurse immediately after completing her Nursing Training at Mampong Nursing and midwifery school at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH).

Her job enabled her to be transferred to various hospital facilities across the country namely Kumasi, Goaso and many other places just to mention a few.

Sister assumed responsibility of taking care of the family and younger siblings early in her working life. She was a very hard working, Assertive, Supportive and Dedicated to ensuring the Wellbeing and Sustenance of the entire Family.

In her quest to ensure that everyone is well catered among her siblings from her mother's side she Sojourned to Nigeria and then finally to the United Kingdom to seek greener pastures and to fulfill her dreams. "Sister" Nana Abena was very reserved, quite Disciplinarian and not given to much talking. She was very Serious, Focused and ambitious in nature with a mild sense of Humor.

Her long absence from the family robbed us of her companionship and

Sisterly Love and Protection as an elder sibling, but we were reunited on her retirement from active Service.

We started enjoying each other's company during our monthly Blessed Family meetings which we were rotating from house to house.

Little did we know that this Beautiful reunion and New found Bond of Love will be short lived when our dear Sister suddenly fell ill and decided to seek medical attention in the United Kingdom only to hear of her death some few weeks ago.

We will sorely Miss you Sister and would love to have you stay a little while longer with Us, But God almighty who knows best and gave you to us as a Gift, has called you up Yonder and to Him be all Glory and Praise.

**REST WELL SISTER, TILL WE MEET AGAIN.
Fondly remembered by
Georgina, Rose, Comfort, Thomas and Felicia.**

TRIBUTE BY GRAND CHILDREN

*Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should walk together in newness of Life. `...And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the father, now we also may live new lives...`
*Rom 6:4, KJV**



As we stop to reminisce about the past and take a trip down memory lane, tears well up in our eyes when we think about those certainly remarkable moments Grandpa had shared with us and the very sentimental moments we had with Grandma as we fondly called them. The many stories Grandpa was ready to share with us concerning his school days as the agile Joe Power, he told us of the generation in which he lived and the Ghana in which he grew up. He was always ready to make conversation with all people, both young and old alike.

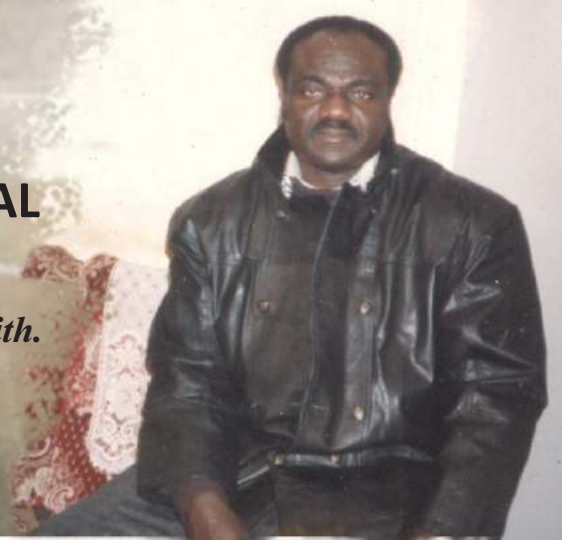
One would think the overt nature of Grandpa will necessitate that his lovely wife our Grandma will also be an overt person, contrary to that conclusion, Grandma was a woman of few words but she did have her high moments where we would engage on a variety of topics from religion to politics. Grandma was hardworking and loved to encourage both her children and grandchildren to do same. She loved and cared enough to try and shield us from her pain. The last time we spoke she said she was fine and showed no indication that anything was going wrong.

Our grandparents loved the things of God. Whilst we lived with them in Ghana, always saw them attend church regularly and were committed to all Church projects and activities. Occasionally, when we would visit, I would see them watching Christian television and I would occasionally get into discussions with Grandma on some of the things we watched on television and she would indulge without restraint. We will always miss your special Chicken light soup and fufu on Sunday.

Over the years I have come to realize and be grateful to God for the grandparents we had.

As Christians, death is not the end. We will all see each other once again in Heaven if we all accept Christ as our Lord and personal savior, So let us all here gathered, hold on to that hope that exists for us in Christ, being confident, we will meet again.

*Fare thee well Grandma Leticia & Grandpa Joe Power,
may you rest in perfect peace.*



**TRIBUTE BY CHRISTAIN HOPE MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL
ACCRA BRANCH TO ELDER AND MRS. OPOKU**

*I have done my best in the race, I have run the full distance and I have kept the faith.
And now there is waiting for me the victory prize of being put right with God,
which the Lord the righteous Judge, will give me on that day
– and not only to me but to all those who wait with love for him to appear.
2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8*

Our beloved and cherished church members Elder and Mrs. Opoku joined the Christian Hope Ministry International, Accra Branch (Mizpah Grounds) in August 2015 from the Christian Hope Ministry International, London branch after their return back home from the diaspora. They were very active members who participated in all communal works that went on in the church. They were always seen at prayer meetings, all night services, church programmes, and the events organized by the church. Elder Opoku was an Elder of the Church and was also part of the Financial Committee, Welfare and Building Committee and spent most of his time supervising church projects.

Our mama, Mrs Leticia Opoku was an executive Member of the Women's ministry in Charge of Finances of the Ministry, She performed her duties diligently and also served as Marriage Committee Member.

Their punctuality was very commendable. The welfare of the church was at the heart of our dear Elder and Mrs. Opoku. The welfare of all members was their concern, making sure everyone felt at home and at ease around them even though they were from the diaspora. Elder and Mrs. Opoku related well with church members of all backgrounds and age groups. They were very jovial and approachable.

When they fell sick, the church prayed and remembered them at every meeting day at church service, believing that they would come back to us

strong and healthy to continue the good work of the Lord. The lord however knows best, His ways are higher and his thoughts are wiser than that of men.

Elder and Mrs. Opoku's death came as a big blow to the church as we were not expecting such shocking news. The church will forever remember them. We know they are resting in the bosom of the Almighty God.

**FROM BISHOP PETER OSEI KOFI,
TILL WE MEET AGAIN, REST IN PERFECT PEACE**

**FROM ASAFO MAAME YOUR BEST FRIEND,
YOU ARE IRREPLACEABLE WITH YOUR SMILES AND APPROACH.**

**FROM OUR CHURCH ELDERS,
WE HAVE LOST A GENTLE GIANT.**

**FROM MEN AND WOMEN MINISTRIES, WE HAVE A GENTLEMAN AND A
LADY WHO WILL FOREVER BE MISSED.**

**FROM THE ENTIRE CHURCH,
“ONYAME NFA MMO NSIE YIE”
AMEN!!!**

**TRIBUTE BY THE MEN FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY
(MEN ACTION)
OF CHRISTAIN HOPE MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL
ACCRA BRANCH
TO MR. JOSEPH KWADWO OPOKU**

*Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him:
but I will maintain mine own ways before him
Job 13; 15*

How do we imperfect humans, question the ways of a perfect God? We all dream of heaven; its beauty and splendor, yet the sting of losing a loved one to heaven is sometimes more than we can bear.

Mr Joseph Kwadwo Opoku Joined the Men's Ministry five years ago when they settled in Ghana after a long Stay in the United Kingdom. He quickly became an active member of the Men Fellowship, always quick to support and share his ideas and one among those who will always pay the dues and other contributions on time

Death is an enemy but Christ our confidence is our saviours' victory over death, Though we mourn, we also rejoice for we know today he has gained.

You have fought a good fight our dear father, brother and friend, may you find rest in our heavenly fathers' bossom.

Fare thee well

**TRIBUTE BY THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY
OF CHRISTAIN HOPE MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL
ACCRA BRANCH TO
MRS. LETTICIA OHENE-DARKO OPOKU**

*Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him:
but I will maintain mine own ways before him
Job 13; 15*

Mrs Leticia Ohene Darko Opoku was an executive in the Women's Ministry, when she was based in the United Kingdom She involved herself in every activities of the Ministry whenever she was in Ghana.

In August 2015, she moved to Ghana and become the women's ministry treasurer. This position was given to her because she held it in UK and the respect we had for her. She diligently carried out her duties as an executive of the ministry.

Mrs. Opoku always politely ask members of the Women's Ministry who owes dues and other obligatories to pay with smiles as she sometimes caress their backs gently to encourage members to fulfill the duties of paying their dues.

We will forever remember her love, kindness, smiles, patience and indiscriminatory nature when dealing with members of the church. Mrs Opoku was indeed a mother to all, her dressing and how she walks was very exceptional to us.

Mama, we love you but God loves you the most. God be with you the most. God be with you till we meet again.

Mama nante yie, Mrs Opoku Onyakopon nfa wonsie dwodwodwo.

TRIBUTE TO JOE POWER BY BROTHER-IN-LAW: ISAAC KWAKU ADOM-ABOAGYE

My first time of knowing Joseph Kwadwo Opoku, was as a classmate and a friend, 58 years ago. We met as form one student's on Thursday 19 September 1963 at Prempeh College.

He stood towering over almost all the form one boys. He was stout and well-built. We the 'little ones' were wary of the threat that his size posed to us. However, we later realised that appearance could at times be deceptive. He was just a gentle giant, who would not even hurt a fly.

Joe Power as he became affectionately known, was very protective. He would negotiate with some seniors to not bully the form one boys. More often than not, his mere presence scared the bullies away from his 'little' friends. We his 'little' friends gave him the nickname 'Man Mountain', after Jonathan Swift's character in *Gulliver's Travels*.

Joe was a good sportsman and participated in many sports and games. Trying to win all that he competed in was not all that he strived for. He knew that every sportsman could not always win, and he had fair play as one of his principles. On the few occasions that I beat him in the 100m Sprint during the inter-collegiate athletics, he would be the first person to turn around and congratulate me. He was a 'good sport'. Joe Power was talented and played table tennis, soccer, hockey and took part in athletics (shot put, high jump and the sprints).

Joe Opoku had a smile that was contagious, and he had a good sense of humour. He was very kind to people and was serviceable.

In 1979, when I decided to travel and had to obtain a passport, Joe Power took all my documents which were needed in order to obtain a passport, from me and submitted them on my behalf and did all the follow up trips and visits to the Passport Office. He followed up until I was issued with a Passport. At that time, I

was living in Kumasi, and Joe was then working at Vanguard Assurance in Accra.

The bond between Joe and myself was cemented when I started dating his younger sister, Grace, in 1978. He was in fact, my brother from another mother, who became my brother-in-law.

In 1980, per the kindness of Joe, the late Mrs Leticia Opoku (Joe's wife) and her friend Mercy, accommodated me for a while at Oshogbo in Osun State, Nigeria. This was before I went to Lagos to take up an appointment with the Lagos State School Management Board.

Joe proved to be a selfless and true friend. I can vividly recollect the time and money he spent recording the Olympic Games (1988 onwards) and posting these many VHS cassettes to me at his own cost.


Another selfless act by Joe, was when he taught me how to earn extra income, by engaging in video recordings of occasions and functions. His advice on camera's and editing machines that I could use to set myself apart from other 'camera men', proved that he had the welfare of other people at heart.

It has been a wonderful privilege and honour to have known Joe Power, a classmate, a friend, a healthy rival in sports and a brother-in-law.

Joe, you were really a serviceable person, who cared for others, a great person, the likes of which are few and far between.

May the good Lord keep you and Leticia, and may your souls rest in perfect peace together, until we all meet again.

JOE, DAMMRIFA DUE . DUE DUE NE AMNEHUNU!



TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH KWADWO OPOKU (JOE POWER) OUR DEAN OF SPECIAL FACULTY - FROM SPECIAL FRIENDS

*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 the evil.
Those who walk uprightly enter into peace, they find rest in death.
(Isaiah 57:1)*

It was with shock that we heard of the death of Opanin Joe Opoku who was known by all and sundry as “JOE POWER”, some of us and special friends met Joe Power from Asanteman Secondary school and also the Ashanti Regional Athletic Team.

Joe Power was an extraordinary sportsman with a talent for many sports disciplines. When it comes to Athletics, he did 100 and 200 meters plus it relays. He did the high jump as well as the shot put. In football he was a goal poacher as well as a schemer.

In hockey, he kept the goal post and was also an attacker. He was a striker in volleyball for four consecutive times. Joe Power was the Asante Regional Champion for Table Tennis.

Joe Power was a man of few words but full of humour, ready to answer, explain and settle arguments. He had a way of bringing the party to life and he had many other skills.

He had the strength of a bull and refused to be a coward. We recall an incident when at an inter school Table Tennis tournament at the Prempeh Assembly Hall in Kumasi, some opposing students took their support too far and wanted to assault him. That was the first time some of us saw the other side of the ever humble sportsman Joe Power.

Joe initially would not hit back when assaulted, but when it became too much, he charged in defense and a whole batch of those rowdy students run away with their tails between their legs.

One of us his special friends recalls a meeting he had with Joe Power in 1988 when he visited London. Joe, when he had contacted him called and invited him to his house, led him to do a few shopping and was at the airport to see him off back home.

We have indeed lost a colossus who was our life wire. Since there is no armor against fate when death calls no one can resist except our good Lord. We wish our Dean of Special Faculty an eternal peaceful rest in the bosom of our God.

Dean Damirifa Due

Joe Power May the good Lord keep you and give you eternal rest.

ADIEU.



TRIBUTE BY NEPHEWS & NIECES MRS LETICIA OHENE- DARKO OPOKU

*“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 into peace; they find rest as they lie in death.”
Isaiah 57:1-2*

It has been very difficult to accept that our Auntie, who we affectionately called Mama or Auntie Leticia, has been taken away from our midst. None of us expected that our sweet and gentle Auntie, who announced her presence with a graceful walk, will soon leave us. Mama, who was so full of life and was easy-going, now has to be referred to as: “late Auntie Leticia”. Our dear Auntie was a blessing and it was a privilege to have her as part of our family.

Mama had a great understanding and deep appreciation of family values and freely gave valuable pieces of advice whenever necessary. Though she was a woman of few words, she counselled and endeavoured to resolve conflicts, to ensure that peace prevailed; wherever her presence was required.

Our fondest memories of Mama as children, was when we looked forward to receiving parcels of clothes, shoes and gifts from the United Kingdom. Our joy knew no bounds anytime we received these gifts which were clearly labelled with our names (knowing very well that, we will receive Pound Sterling in addition; how we danced after opening our parcels!) especially during Christmas.

You sounded strong when we spoke to you on phone; even though you were not too well. You were always grateful and appreciative of our regular check-ups on you as well as phone calls. When we heard of the demise of Dada Joe (as we affectionately called your late husband; whose mortal remains also lie before us today), we called and you sounded quite well. We therefore looked forward to seeing you in March; even though it would have been under unpleasant

circumstances. Little did we know that this expectation was a mere illusion. We were therefore shocked when we received news of your passing on 23rd January, 2022 few days to your birthday and it has not been easy dealing with this big blow.

You were kind-hearted, affable and God-fearing and this was clearly shown in the many roles you played in church as well as the awards you received from your congregations - both in Ghana and in the U.K. Mama, you have left a remarkable legacy here on earth. Know that you will never be forgotten and will always be loved by the entire family. Your demise has left a huge void in our hearts such that, only time can heal it. We were so privileged to have you as our Auntie while you journeyed on this earth. It is definitely hard to accept the death of a loved one - how we wish we had the power to overturn death from the face of this earth forever! We long to live here on earth without losing anyone dear to us, but sadly, death is inevitable. We however take consolation in Scriptures which assures us in **1Thessalonians 4:13-14** that:

“Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.”

***Adieu, Auntie Leticia! Damirifa due!
Rest in Peace!***



