

Princess (Lt. Col) Grace Maria Bassey Adam-Eyo (rtd)

6 April 1939 - 28 December 2016



My Heart!!! My Soul!!!

Funeral Service

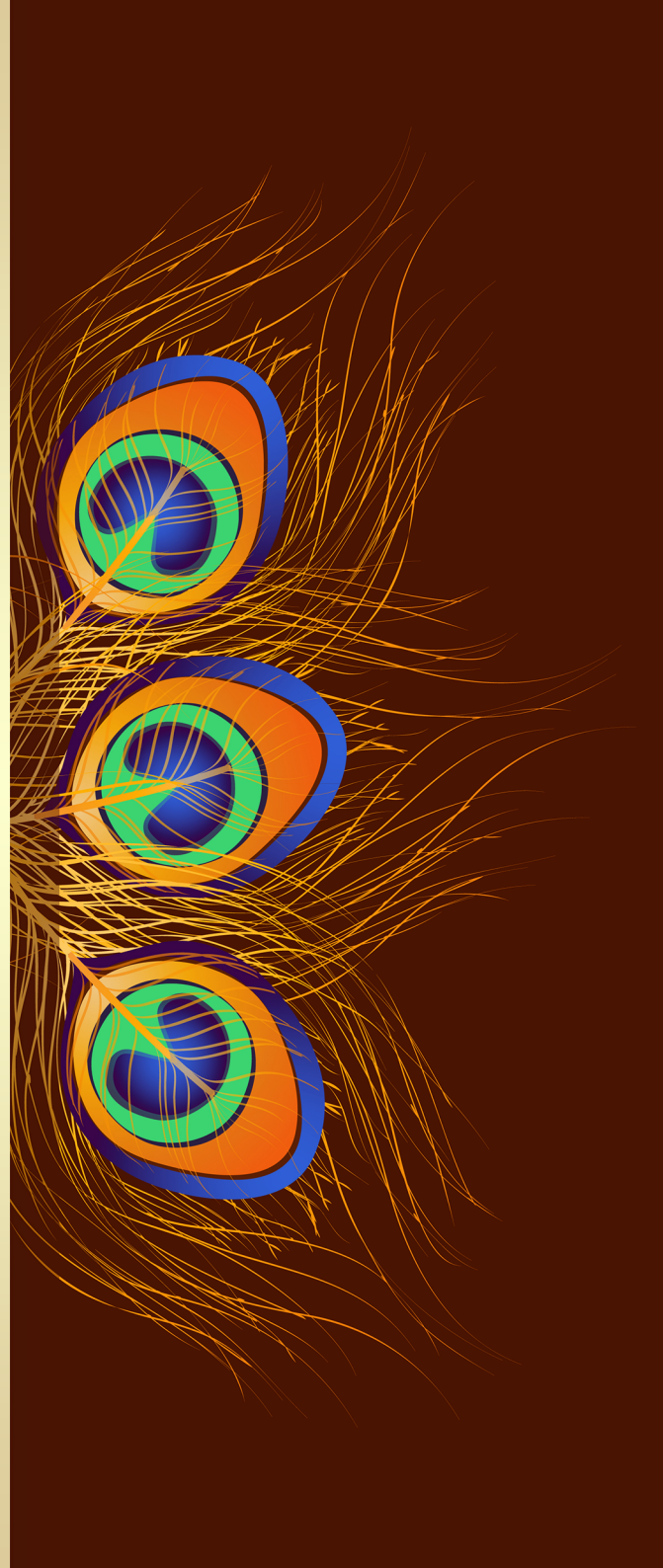
11am

Thursday 26th January 2017

at

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

3 King Edward's Road, London E9 7SF





ORDER OF SERVICE



1. Reception of Remains - Father David
2. Opening Hymn - In Christ Alone my hope is found
3. Words of Tribute - Elizabeth Sobanjo, Yewande Akinyemi, Colonel H Musa
4. Opening Prayer - Father David
5. First Reading - Josephine Ayo-Vaughan
6. Psalm - Maria Adu
7. The Holy Gospel - Father David
8. Bidding Prayer - Thomas Adu
9. The Lord's Prayer - Father David
10. Hymn - When Peace Like a River (It Is Well With My Soul)
11. Final Prayer - Father David
12. Hymn - Abide With Me

TRIBUTES



There are people in this world that you grow up to believe are permanently interwoven in the fabric of the earth and mum, you were one of them. Hearing the news of your loss not only came across as a shock to us all but as a sudden, unpleasant reality of what life is. It's hard to imagine YOU ARE GONE. It's hard to put into words what MUM WAS TO ME AND US ALL. You really had an impact on US ALL. Your death has sent tremors across the Atlantic for who you WERE as only the fall of a GIANT COULD. A GIANT whose presence cast a shadow across a nation.

HOW DOES ONE BURY A GIANT? Like a pointing steeped in history, there is no story that will surpass your story. They say a man will never truly die. He lives on through his dreams. The things you build while you are alive will carry in them your immortal soul. I carry you in my heart and chest as it Bears the irremovable mark of yours that you have left behind, now that you have gone away. I grew up in your untainted world. The pain won't pass just yet for me. It lingers like an echoing scream. But silence brings back memories of things I thought I had forgotten. I know memories will never fade. May your soul rest in perfect peace.

Your step daughter - Princess (Mrs.) Josie Ekaette Ayo-Vaughan.



The gracious Princess Grace Was the “FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE” of many military hospitals and formations, where she served as nurse and rose to the highest seat of a chief matron.

Beautifully created in person and at heart. We all lived as neighbors in Port Harcourt GRA, where I met her step daughter, Josephine, who by God's Grace remains my better half and the pillar of my home. We love you, but God loves you more.

God be with you till we meet again.

Love Gen. Sola Ayo-Vaughan (Your Step Son-in-Law)



My dearest Aunty EKAMA, my first recollection of mum was about 8 years ago, when I accompanied my parents to see her in London, as I arrived from the USA for the summer holiday. She recognized me immediately as a replica of my mother.

As we sat to lunch, I remember her thanking my parents and us. I realized how beautiful that was. We talked and laughed, we talked about lots things. Her intelligence really amazed me, even with her age, she kept abreast of current events. I was really looking forward meeting this spring time.

O death, Where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory? In the cold day of Wednesday 28th December 2016, the HUGE TREE fell with temerity and somber sound lacked alacrity. It is the handiwork of mortality. The twigs and boughs bear the crudity with equanimity. As Princess (Lt-Col.) Grace Adam-Eyo witness finality in the cold hand of death.

Aunty Ekama, take heart. God loves us all and I thank God grandma had a blast with her time and life. She and you wed a beautiful life.

Your niece - Tolu Affiong Ayo-Vaughan.

My Aunty, I must start with my deep heartfelt sympathy to you, as I also express my condolence to each of your extended family on the exit and home call of mum on Wednesday 28th December 2016.

As my step grandmother rest eternally in the bosom of the lord, mum will continue to wear the toga and indelible emblem of NIGERIA/NIGERIAN ARMY, one organization she believes so much in and that which she saw much promise of profit.

On behalf of my brothers, cousin, aunties and relations far and near, allow me to pray with you Aunty EKAMA, that (mum) continues to rest eternally well and in the safe care and bosom of the Lord. Take heart and stay focus.

Your nephew - Segun Etim Ayo-Vaughan.



Dear Aunty Ekama, I was absolutely saddened when the news of mum's death was disclosed to me. I really wanted to see her and you on the 21st of December, when I passed through London for my connecting flight that day but so tired to get to town and had to just spend the day at Sheraton Heathrow sleeping all through till, I felt for the airport. My mother kept calling without luck to wake me up. I was hoping to be with you two on my return journey back when I would have two/three days stay in London.

To live in the hearts we live behind is not to die. It is not the years in life that count but the life in the years.

Your mum was LARGER THAN LIFE ITSELF. May the balm in Gilead remove the sting and heal the aches in your heart.

We share your pains with you Aunty EKAMA. May mum sleep in the bosom of the Lord. It is well.

Your nephew - Tosoye Ekpenyong Ayo-Vaughan.



The brief and short time I was previewed to share in your presence, I was honored to have graced your presence. I watched, observed and learned in a short moment who you were and what you stood for. Losing you sends vibrate chills across the ocean wave. Sleep well Aunty Mmakamba.

Mrs. Maeyen Akhomi (Nee Duke)



There's no word I could use to describe what a loving, caring and beautiful mother in law and mother you where and are to me. I have no regret whatsoever in allowing me being a part of your wonderful and lovely daughter's life. You might have gone, but to me you are still very much around, because I find myself smiling anytime I think of you and the warm, charming voice you answer the phone with when I call. Going to miss the “Hello Tom” on the Phone and anytime I come around to visit. You have the most sweetest, calmest and gentlest voice.

I can remember all those times I used to come around the house, before I started dating your beautiful daughter and you'd prepare me something to eat making sure I was okay and comfortable. You never made me fill unwelcome and until now, always had my back anytime me and your daughter quarreled. You will be missed but your lovely memory will always stay with us. Rest in peace and keep smiling mum.

Love Forever, Thomas Adu

Approximately 50yrs ago, a vivacious women was introduced to the family as our cousin of our late father, Major Adams. A beautiful nurse and the head of the military hospital where our dad had been posted. Overjoyed as children and as family we all tramped over to Aunty Adam-Eyo, Bangala quarters, near the military office, just across the street from where we resided. To our pleasant surprise, our newly found favourite Adam, Aunty Adams, at the time was a spinster and we gladly played the role of her children as she joyfully pampered us with nice things such as cookies, candies and gifts of little toys for all. A very caring person by nature. Her specialty was being a nurse. Our favourite aunty, undeterred by any adversity would seek the face of God and as fate would have it, our mighty God came through, heard her prayers, cries and pain and gave her heart's desire and more. Today, after many years of her love and guidance, another member of our family has been snatched, this time our beloved Aunty Grace Adam-Eyo. As a soldier with a nursing background and a pioneering spirit she recorded a first in her profession: She became the first female officer to be promoted to the enviable rank of a full Conol before her time. No woman in the history of the Nigerian armed forces had ever obtained this ranking. After emeritus service and completion statutory 35yrs of service to the nation she would later spend her retirement years in the peaceful quiet suburb of Queensbridge road, London, England where she resided until her great transition to glory. She embodied a rearing quality rarely found in most people. She left us with her beautiful and loving daughters who with her guidance are both highly educated university graduates. Her legacy we will cherish. This episode is one that tore through our hearts with a gap that only time can heal. She can never be forgotten. We pray for her soul and spirit that she is now resting in for eternity and in the loving hands of peace of almighty God, the all-knowing and compassionate Father. May her loved ones be able to bear this loss, albeit with saddened hearts but resigned with the fortitude that she is now at rest. She will be sorely missed. Aunty Grace Adam-Eyo, God bless you and the family you left behind. As we all know so well, the passage of time never really heals the tragic memory of such a great loss, but we carry on because we have to because out aunty and mother will want us to, and because there is still light to guide us in the world from the love she gave us.

Aunty Adam-Eyo has gone home, now guided by her faith and the light of those she has loved and lost. At last she is with them once more leaving those of us who grieve her passing with the memories she gave, the good she did, the dreams she kept alive and the single enduring image, the image of a woman soldier who fought adversity and rose to shine on a hill, smiling broadly as she sails into wind ready for what storms might come, carrying on towards some new and wondrous place, just beyond the horizon. May God bless Aunty Adams and may she rest in eternal peace. Rest in peace, till we meet again in the spirit. Adieu.

Love, Elizabeth Sobanjo (nee. Daudu)



Aunty Makamba, a lady of elegance, gentleness and Grace! You will be missed. May your gentle Soul RIPP

Love, Andy Ekeng (your Niece)



I met Mama Maria some 20 years ago while living in London as a Nigerian immigrant. The moment she knew i was a Nigerian like herself, though from a different tribe, she embraced me with love and treated me as an adopted son. Many a time would i visit her in her flat in Hackney to eat authentic African dishes. Her vegetables and Ogbono soups had no equal in taste and richness as they were always garnished with orishirishi meat and pieces of fish. She was a warm and very loving woman who loved her daughter dearly and tried her best in infusing her with the best values which i have no doubt are standing Maria in good steads today. A worthy Mother in Israel indeed. May her soul rest in perfect peace.

***Olola Ayo Ajayi
Abuja, Nigeria.***

To everything there is a time.

For every matter under heaven.

A time to die, a time to plant, and a time to weep, and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to keep and a time to cast away.

...Ecclesiastes...

AUNTY MAKAMBA!

You truly were special!

I remember clearly as you were my mother's best friend without contest, and as a result of that, friendship with Pamus was automatic.

We bonded like two peas in a pod.

Although I was a little girl I remember you were such a fine officer, always impeccably dressed in and out of uniform. You were very stylish and beautiful. Extremely kind hearted and generous. If I remember correctly my first time on an aeroplane/flight was courtesy of you.

I think what i admired most about you was the way you loved your daughter Pamus. She was your everything.

Please let my mom know I love and miss her. I hope you both will be friends again as you meet.

REST WELL My darling Aunty Makamba.

-NENGI BEREGHA-



Aunty Grace Adam-Eyo always approached life with courage, determination and a lust for life. Whether serving in the army or as a nurse or a mother or friend she always gave her all and was forever aware of others needs. She loved and cared for family and friends and loved her Lord Jesus Christ. She was always welcoming and friendly to those she met and was hard working, honest and humble. She was very proud of her daughter, Maria and loved her very much. This is quite evident in the woman Maria has become, guided by the principles and morals her mother bestowed upon her from an early age. A child is a reflection of the parent they say, well then we can agree that Maria's Mum did a most splendid job indeed.

Today we say goodbye for now to our wonderful Aunty Grace, who fought the good fight and won the race. She is home with her beloved Jesus now. We remember her for all good times we had with her and the wisdom and love she shared. She is not forgotten but will be happily remembered. We thank you Grace for the life you led and the legacy you left behind and we thank God for your life and ours which is so much richer for knowing you. Any tears shed will be of Joy for knowing you, loving you and knowing you have made it home. Thank you Mama Grace for everything xxx

ROBERT HINDHAUGH



MAMA GRACE, my meeting with you was on a night shift and my last meeting was also on a night shift. From that first night of meeting you, I knew you are a woman who maintains and respect your privacy and dignity at all times. I sense That you were weak and tired, yet trying to make effort. What a strong woman. I still remember. You appreciated every little help given to you. May the precious LORD lead you home safely. Amen, R.I.P

With Love, Amina (Your Homerton Nurse)

Members of the Calabar Women’s Organisation UK are deeply saddened by the loss of your beloved mother. We console you, as well as your entire family, in this period of grief and pray God to remain your comforter.

News about the passing on of your dear mother was received with utmost grief and a true sense of loss. Indeed, it is a great loss to you and your family. But who can supersede a faithful and caring mother, except the Almighty God. Therefore the vacuum her demise has created in your heart, as well as relations, friends and the community, she has left behind will be sealed by God alone.

It is said that those whom God loves, He calls to grandeur. Therefore, he has chosen his appointed time for her cessation. It is in this regard, we implore you to be consoled, remain poise, as you channel through this period of grief.

We pray that the charming soul of your mother find succour in the bosom of the Lord. Amen



It is with a heavy heart I write this as we all left back here would miss you greatly. The vacuum created would hit darling Maria and Thomas most but the Comforter is with them. As I remember the trust you gave me for being your daughter’s friend and the sound of your voice when you call my name ‘Eleanor’ would forever be in my heart.

I stand here not sad but grateful to God for the longlife and peaceful exit he blessed you with... you ran your race and finished well... It is a prayer many pray for... Farewell and rest in perfect peace Aunty Grace in Jesus name, Amen.

Love forever, Ngozi Eleanor Egbujie



Tribute to Aunty Mmakamba

We called you “Aunty Soldier”! Others knew you as “Aunty Mmakamba”.

In the Efik language – “The Big Lady”, a synonym for rich in your case

“Rich in heart, Rich in soul, Rich in beauty, Rich in love”

Your legendary beauty was a reflection of the beauty of your heart inside.

The toughness of your job, was just a guise to keep you safe.

Our Aunty Soldier! For long we did not see, but you were always thought of.

Our father, your brother would talk about you and all the adventures of your glamorous youthful years.

We thank God for the privilege of having had you in our lives,

Even as it was; a short time with us, your nieces and nephews but a long time on earth with your loved ones.

We pray God to care for the children you have left behind -

Ekama, Maria Goretti, Pamus Pamus the love of your life, watch down on her and give her the strength you were known for.

Adieu Aunty Mmakamba! Beautiful one, and thus a Joy forever.

We know in our hearts, that you are at peace in the bosom of our Lord, and as always may the Lord’s will be done.

FROM: The Children of your brother – Prince Eyo Bassey Adam

Winifred Akoda (nee Adam), Violet Adewale – Ajayi (nee Adam), George Adam, Amimi Osayande (nee Adam)

One more scion of the illustrious Adam clan, one of the most accomplished, should I be asked, has left for the great beyond. What a depressing news it was for me personally having known her all my life. If there was one daughter of the great patriarch, Edidem Bassey Eyo Ephraim Adam, late Living of Calabar, who understood and carried with grace the illustrious name which she bore, it was my now late aunt, Princess Col. Grace Adam-Eyo, whose tribute I now struggle to compose.

I still have fond memories of her beginning from the seventies when we used to pay her visits in Port Harcourt where she was based with her late husband, chief Dominic Eyo. I still remember vividly how I and my late sister dreaded the end of our holidays in her house. My aunt, ever the practical woman, would ensure that we were given Epsom salt to purge our system of all toxins. Now, we did not see it that way since the medication was as bitter as bile. And so, it was quite some task to get me to take that dreadful drug; I had to be caught first by the soldiers around to be given that concoction.

I also used to sometimes mistake her for my mother with whom she had an uncanny resemblance. I was not alone in this. On countless occasions, military men saluted my mum thinking that they were paying compliments to my aunt and my mum in her easy manner would tell them, “please, I am not Grace”.

But as I grew in knowledge, I began to notice the subtle differences between them. Whereas my mum was the “village woman”, please permit my language, my aunt was the sophisticated lady, thoroughly cosmopolitan in disposition. Anyone who went into her bedroom would think he or she was in a cosmetic shop and a boutique put together. Clothes, perfumes, pomades littered everywhere, and when later in my life I began to be involved with members of the opposite sex, especially those who themselves as being very sophisticated, I will sit them down and regal them with stories of Aunty Soldier, as we fondly called her.

But just under that veneer of elegance lay the trait of toughness. She was tough and always deployed that trait to our defence. She was the action lady of the family. Watching her in action one would think she was a combatant. Perhaps, if the military authorities had allowed female combatants in her time, she would surely have been one.

We, the younger ones, always tried to reconcile her great beauty with her sternness. That always amazed us to no end.

The demise of my aunt marks the end of a great era in the history of the Adam family. There is no doubt at all that her eventful life was a part of the very rich tapestry of my wonderful family. The one great stabilizing factor is gone and it appears we are more rudderless than we are.

Adieu dear aunt, go in peace for you have played your role on life’s stage. We will rally round Pamus as you did for us. We will always remember you with love in our hearts. Rest well, and in peace.

Your nephew, Okechukwu Anthony Eyo Offiah.



I remember each time I visited you, you would always look, as if you were studying me. Then Maria would say ‘it’s Kuru’ and your answer was always ‘I know’, accompanied by that your graceful smile and some instructions to Maria asking if I wanted to eat. Thank you for always making me feel at home. I won’t forget your poise and how with age you grew more beautiful...an effortless & natural beauty. Despite all Maria told us of your firmness and authority, I saw your gentleness and how you epitomised your name ‘Grace’! We know Maria misses you but in her, your firmness, strength, beauty and love lives on. Farewell Aunty.

Dr Kuru Osigbe

We received with shock and sadness the news of the demise of our wife and your dear mother Late Princess (Lt. Col) Grace Adam-Eyo (Rtd) whose sad event occurred on the 28th of December, 2016. She was valuable and a loving member of this family especially because of her innumerable contributions to the development of the family and Nigerian Nation at large. With heavy hearts, we sincerely commiserate and convey our heartfelt condolences to you and members of your immediate family over the passing on of this great achiever. We pray that the Almighty God will give you and the entire family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss as we commend her gentle soul to the bosom of the heavenly Father to Rest in Perfect Peace. Please accept our sincere condolences.

Rev. Dr. Patrick O Ayito (Chairman of the Esuabanga Eyo Family)

My Big sister .-MAKAMBA.....My Big sister,my friend , my dearest, my lovely and understanding sister who wanted the best for everyone. Who ever thought u will leave us so soon. I miss you. I will forever miss you.Eternal Rest grant unto her o Lord and let Perpetual Light shine upon her. May she rest in peace Amen.

Aunt BEKS



Aunty Soldier, my mum’s twin sister as I liked to call you!
Glamorous, beautiful, sharp as a button and a tough nut to crack. I remember you as that person who would light up the room, holding everyone spell-bound with your stories, mannerisms and of course that incredible tic; and as my father used to say, “my most interesting sister in-law”.
But then life is what it is and alas we would all succumb to death’ for our dust shall return to the earth as it was, and our spirits shall return unto God who gave it’.
I choose to celebrate your life and times, rather than mourn. I choose to glorify God for the privilege of having you in my life, for the beautiful gift of Ekamma your amazing daughter and my very beloved sister. I will miss you. My mother, your sister will miss you.
Rest in peace, my beautiful Aunty Mmakamba.

From Dr Queeneth (Mama) Adams (nee Effiwatt)



I called you mum because that was what you were to me. You gave me the key to your home and your heart was welcoming even though you hardly knew me. You took me like a son and I will always be grateful for that. Then I broke your heart.... and again you forgave me. A pure heart you were indeed. Have a safe trip

.....Babasola Oduga



Our mother Grace Adam-Eyo, a lovely woman was known towards the end of her earthly life. She is a virtuous woman and a wonderful mother. We are fortunate to be present at her hospital bed few days before she finally gave up the ghost to meet with our Lord. From information we gathered about her, she is a woman of integrity, lover of peace, God fearing, a devoted Christian and a generous person. Though we all miss you but Christ loves you more. The Bible say “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.”
The woman of God has served her own generation according to the will of God and we pray that her soul will rest in perfect peace with the Lord. She has crossed over gallantly and peacefully.

Rev. Michael & Prophetess Rachael Fajoye

Aunty grace was a caring, fun loving lady. The amazing thing about her is that she was obsessed with Maria just as much as Maria was obsessed with her. It’s still hard to believe that you are no longer with us but I guess God needed your presence more in heaven than on earth. I know you will be worried about leaving Maria, but take comfort knowing that she is loved by so many and has a lot of great people around her. She is like a sister to me, and I will always be there for her whatever and whenever she needs. We will miss you soo much. May you continue to rest in peace. Isaiah 41:10 - 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 hand.

Love, Ify Orizu (nee. Asiji)



Ma Grace, Aunty Makamba full of grace.
Such a Gentle woman, soft in nature whilst being strong in her faith.
The first time i met Ma was during Ekama/Maria’s Wedding preparations. She was so quiet in Comparison to her daughter Maria, AKA Princess Chatterbox. They came around to my Mum’s (Mrs.Nsa.obianagha) house to go through details, Maria and her Wedding file of details, from colour schemes, table layouts, to wedding cakes, and flowers etc.
Within African Culture, all elders instantly become Uncle’s or Aunty’s, Or Ete or Ma. It was lovely gaining a new aunty. Aunty Makamba. As the Efik Community is relatively Small in the UK, for me it was such a delight to see the women of the house making preparations with the wider Efik Community welcoming Mrs. Adam-Eyo and daughter Maria, for the Traditional EFIK Aspect of the Wedding. Which was a beautiful occasion at Aunty Imelda’s House, Efik Royalty in effect. Amongst all this, Ma was still quiet as ever, but listening attentively. It is said good listeners are the best communicators. Ma would interject at the right time. And the expression on her face would say without word “i hope you know what your doing”. Mothers and communication without speaking is Priceless....A word for the wise is sufficient etc etc.

Maria Looked Stunning on her wedding day to Tom, it was a glorious Sunny day, witnessed before God amongst a wealth of Lovely people. Ma was dressed in Purple, the Mother of the bride showed us where Maria’s beauty originated from. Pretty in beauty and in spirit. A truly loving nature.
Her Home has the warmth and devotion of Jesus Christ, where you instantly feel at home with a woman who has a total Reverence for God, never over bearing. Her calm reserve was a peaceful joy to be in the presence of.
I thank the Lord for your Peaceful Life, an example of Christ’s gentleness, and obedience that remains an example for my soul to follow.
Ma, your daughter Maria has honoured your life till your last breath on earth. We say bye for now, as you breath Life Eternal with Our Saviour Jesus Christ, in his Grace. Until we meet again.
Bye bye Aunty Makamba

Bong Ukpong Anderson (Akpan Ma Nsa.Obianagha)



Sister Grace, as we all call her in asorock restaurant, was just not a typical customer. She was special and loved by everyone. I started catering for mum when dad was relocating back to Nigeria, he told me to make sure she was satisfied anytime she calls to order for food. I quickly discovered how kind and warm she was as a person. Everytime I took food to her, she will always find time to ask about the welfare of myself and everyone in the family. Around her, I felt calm and easy. She wasn’t just a customer to me, she was my mum and I will miss her dearly. I miss her phone calls, I will miss her kind and Godly words. Continue to rest in the blossom of the Lord, sister Grace.

From Jide and the entire Asorock staff

When Aunty Grace met me, I became a full fresh Solicitor in 1985. I owned my Firm called Iyama Solicitors.

I hugged her because I knew her through my late Mum.

I was Aunty Grace Adam-Eyo solicitor. All matter, Housing, Power of Attorney & Wills Matter etc, We drafted them for her.

She will say, “I will take you to lunch”. After we had finished the lunch, I will pay”! I didn’t allow her to pay. My late Mum is her senior with

over 12 years. What will I say to my late mum? We laugh and laugh and laugh!

I will see her to London Bridge, where she will take the tube and go home. I will then, go back to the firm. She was like a mother to me.

You had left us in Perfect Peace.

Rest in Peace my Darling Aunty Grace.

Ms Isabella Iyama-Onibudo

Funmi Ahmed-Johnson

Sunmi & Wunmi Ahmed-Onibudo



Aunty the news of your demise got to me unexpectedly though. Nonetheless, I thanks God Almighty that u lived a life of greatness while on earth.

You will be remembered for lots of things, most outstanding was the love you exhibited for your family members, friends and relatives. As you will

stake your neck on the chopping board just to see that we, your children, nieces and nephews become successful in life.

I was inspired by your unique leadership style, which was laced with discipline and hard work. This I can say has kept me going till this day.

The Lord Almighty has called you home and am sure you will be resting in His bosom with the best of His Angels tending to you.

I shall miss you aunty,

Sanga sung o, Eyen Obong Abasi Eyo Effiom.

Your Nephew,

Umo Bassej Adam



Our beloved aunty Grace was a woman of few words, calm and stylish. Like her name, she was graceful in courage and speech.

She was a warrior in her spirit who fought two cardiac arrest before this last episode. Even then, she always puts up a good fight but I guess it was

God’s time to call her home to rest. She believed in God and had relationship with His son Jesus Christ.

A concerned and compassionate mother, always praying for Maria; sometimes she asked that we join our faith together in prayer. She has gone

but the prayer seed sown shall suddenly sprout and bear fruits in Jesus name because I know that the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous

avails much, Amen. I genuinely miss her.

Rest in the bosom of the Lord Aunty Grace. Amen

Yewande (Your humble Carer)



As her name suggests, my sister Grace was a nice and gentle sister to me. Always a respectful and caring person, no matter your age or who you

are. It was a blessing to have seen her in the weeks leading up to her sad passing. I thank God for her life and pray a blessing for her daughter. I

will miss her dearly. May Her Gentle Soul Rest In Peace.

MaNsa Obianagha (Mrs)

TRIBUTE TO MMA ADAM. Mma Adam as we normally call her was a mother to all that was close to her. I met mma some Years ago through

sis Mma Nsa, when her only daughter, then Miss Maria Eyo, was getting married. Sister Mma Nsa called me to join her and teach Maria and her

train Cultural dance. Mma saw me there and Mma Nsa introduced me to her and what I was there for. she really appreciated it and welcomed me,

and after the wedding, it was as if I known her with Ekama for the past ten Years. The moment am out of Mma’s sight, Mma Nsa is in trouble as

she goes “Mma Nsa where is Awa”, either on phone or in person until I call, then she will relax. It was as if Awa is part of her family. Mma was

down to earth. As a Princess, she did not feel important than any body else. When Mma attend meetings e.g Calabar Union or Calabar Women

Organisation, Mma will seat down quietly, no word from her unless it is very necessary. Mma was very accommodating, those who knows her

will testify to this, and because of that, her daughter and Son-in-Law follows her foot steps. Mma became ill a year or two ago in and out of the

hospital. Even on her sick bed she still remembered me. Kept on asking Mma Nsa as she normally calls her, “where is Awa”. And once they are

done, she hangs up. Sis Mma Nsa will be on the phone to me and tells me that, “Mma Adam has been asking of u”. I will then call Mma. When she

was admitted to the hospital, sis Mma Nsa rang me and said Mma Adam is on admission and i should arrange time to visit her. After a week, as I

was still planning my visit, the sad news came from sis. Mma Nsa that Mma has joined her creator were she will be free from sickness. I will miss

her dearly. Adieu Ma. May Your Soul Rest in peace.

Awa.



TRIBUTE TO MY PRECIOUS FRIEND PRINCESS LT. COL. GRACE MARIA BASSEY ADAM-EYO (RTD)

Oh! Death what have you done, you have taken away my one and only friend GMB as I fondly call her and Aunty Grace as all my friends and fami-

lies call her. She was a rare breed, a friend in need and indeed. As harmless as a dove, very accommodating, understanding and will always go out

of her way to assist people. There can never be another GMB in my life. We met about 26 years ago at First Bank of Nigeria plc, Yaba Branch in

Lagos and ever since we have been inseparable. She moved with me from one branch to another on transfer because her trust and belief in me was

absolute. Every member of staff in all these branches knew us to be 5 & 6. As soon as she is spotted in the banking premises “Mama, your friend

is here” will rend in the Air. She would be excited to share whatever it is with me and my trust in her was absolute too.

she was loved by all back home in Calabar as she was a Princess of Obong Bassej. I was always given a state reception when I traveled to Calabar,

one was when I represented her at Mrs Onah’s burial. The ‘Over 50 years club’ which she belonged to then related with me as if she was amidst

of them and accorded me all the respect and royalties meant for her. I will never forget the reception and hospitality of her friends and siblings.

She would always consult me on issues and I always give candid advise on an issues, God being on my side. GMB in uniform is something else,

very neat, humble, beautiful and accommodating. She was a sight to behold in uniform.

When she retired and moved to England, rarely will a day pass without me calling her or she calling to ask about my well being. She gets along

well with all members of my family and you cannot help but to love GMB as soon as you set your eyes on her. I know she will be granted a place

of rest in Heaven ‘cause I know that you did not hold any grudge against anyone and she loved everyone as she loved herself. Your last call was

“my friend, I just called to hear your voice” and same was returned some days later. While in hospital, I spoke to you on the phone through you

daughter Maria, though you could not talk but you knew I called. I pray that God will cause his light to shine upon you and make you worthy of

his Kingdom. Don’t worry, Pamus is in God’s hands and he will perfect all things relating to her. Rest in peace my friend. Rest in peace GMB. Rest

in peace Makamba. Rest in peace Aunty Grace. Till we meet to part no more. Adieu.

Your one and only friend – Aunty Sola





BIOGRAPHY

Birth

Princess (Lt-Col) Grace Adam-Eyo, was born on the 6th of April 1939 in Kano, to the family of late HRH Edidem Bassey Eyo Ephraim Adam III of Etim Effiom Royal House, Ikot Eyo, Akpabuyo and former Obong of Calabar, and her mother, late Winifred Omotunde Adam (nee St Matthew Daniel), of Ijebu Remo, Ogun State.

Education/Work History

After her primary education, she attended Queen of Apostles College, Kakuri from 1951 to 1956, where she sat her WAEC ('O' Levels). From there, she proceeded to the University College Hospital Ibadan, where she qualified as a State Registered Nurse. She went on to pursue further qualification in the United Kingdom in Gynecology Management and became a state registered Midwife in December 1962 in Leeds. From 1963 to 1964, she worked in Bradford on Avon as a staff nurse/staff midwife. Late 1964, she returned to Nigeria, where she joined the Nigerian Army and worked as a military nurse for the next twenty-six years. She was an epitome of what a military nurse should be; incredibly strong, dedicated and hardworking, rising to the rank of Lt. Col. She was respected and feared by her peers.

On retirement in 1990, she returned to the United Kingdom and continued working in various nursing roles at different locations, including University College of London, Homerton Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, Bart Hospital and Kings College Hospital.

Hobbies

My mum was a passionate lawn tennis and squash player so much so that she was able to defeat both male and female opponents. She would often go to the squash court to practice on her own taking me with her. When I once asked her why, she responded "Pamus, you have to be ready for your competitions"! She was also a devoted singer and encouraged me to sing to the point that I became a lead soprano until ... (that's another story)!.

As we sing to remember her, I can hear the echoes of her singing, with no care in the world or worry as to who is listening ...

She is survived by:

Princess (Mrs) Maria Eyo Adu - Daughter

Princess (Mrs) Josie Ayo-Vaughan - Step daughter

Mr Tom Adu - Son-in-law

Gen. Sola Ayo-Vaughan – Son-in-law

Mr Richard Davids - for nephews

Mrs Theresa Ezine - for nieces



APPRECIATION

*We, the entire family of
Princess (Lt. Col) Grace Maria Bassey Adam-Eyo (Rtd)
would like to thank you all for showing support since the
transition to glory of our beautiful, warm and incredible Mum.
Your love, care and prayers have kept our spirits alive.
We appreciate you and Pray God's Blessings on you.
Thank you.*

