



BIOGRAPHY

Mrs. Justina Sojiba Ebune née Tariah (Maa) was born in 1940 in Buguma, Rivers State Nigeria to Frank Amah Tariah and Rachel Data Otaji.

She met her late husband our father, while he was employed as a teacher in Buguma. They got married traditionally in 1960 and later blessed their union in the Holy Roman Catholic Church on October 30, 1971.

From their union they produced eight children who have subsequently given her seventeen grandchildren.

Maa as she was called by all her children was a homemaker who provided a warm nurturing environment for her entire family. She not only cared for her biological children but also for those of the extended family and was host mother to four Namibian children who continue to regard her to this day as mother. Maa has always protected and done her best to sustain her family.

As a young wife and mother during the Nigerian Civil War, and her husband away for further studies, she quickly learned to make the best delicacies to sell so she could provide for her family until the return of her husband.

Maa's husband preceded her in death in 1994 and in 2001, she traveled to the US to live with her oldest daughter Catherine (Kay) while intermittently visiting with her other children in the US and United Kingdom. Maa was blessed to see and touch all of her grandchildren except for the youngest Dylan-Thomas. As God would have it, the day before she went to meet her Maker, she talked to Dylan-Thomas on Facetime and witnessed him taking some of his first steps.

Maa was devout Christian; active within her church community wherever she worshipped. It is so befitting that in preparations to send her off to Cameroon that week, her church community had put together a celebration for her on Sunday October 8th. In reality, she was being sent off to glory as her Lord and Savior would call her home the next day.

Maa you have lived a full life! We, your children and grandchildren would have loved to keep you longer with us. But the Lord was ready for you to come home and we trust in his divine plan. Though our hearts are sad, we celebrate you and the life that you have lived. You have fought the good fight and now it is time for you to rest.

Until we meet again, you'll forever be in our hearts

TRIBUTES

Tribute to my Amazing Mom

Maa, I still remember and visualize how you sat up in the couch, stretched out your arms to me and said calmly, "Anne come carry me". I walked over to you and put my arms around you to carry you, and you passed out! It is comforting that you passed out in the arms of one of your own children. Infact it is a blessing to me. Maa, your passing away was so GRACEFUL!!!, yet it left me in a big shock! As even five minutes before it happened, you and I were talking with each other as normally as we always do.

Maa, you were not a mother to me alone, but also to all my five children! I delivered all of them under care. You bathed and dressed them every morning all through the first month of their lives. Particularly Emmanuel, my first child whom I left in your hands for two whole years as a baby while I was in Canada for further studies. Maa, you were truly a human pillar to me! I love you dearly, but GOD loves you more. Rest peacefully in HIS OWN BOSOM.



Anne, your 3rd child and 2nd daughter.

A tribute to our loving Mom

Maa, (as we the Ebunes' and her grand children so lovingly call our loving mom) and Soi, (short form for Sojibaas she was so fondly called by her friends and family members in Buguma), you are our own dear loving mom. Your exemplary life of a decent and God fearing mom and woman is to be emulated by all your children. Your befitting loving upbringing of your children can never be forgotten by us, your children.

We will always remember how you worked hard to model us into what we are today. The warm loving way you refer to your children by pet names which you gave them and the loving way you called them. Not forgetting the homely way you welcomed their friends who visited, will be remembered by all. With love in my heart and painful tears in my eyes I say A dieu Maa to the land beyond. Nobody can ever fill the vacuum you have left in our lives by your death. Because you have gone to God's bossom to rest, we can bear the loss.



Lydia
(4th child and 3rd daughter)





Words are not enough to express our gratitude...
Your kindness and concern for our family
means so much to us.
We appreciate that some of you travelled a long way
to be with us, for others it was that much
needed phones calls or text message we received.
Whatever you did to confort and console us,
thank you!
We are so grateful for the love, support and prayers
during this difficult time.

God Bless

The Ebune Family

CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN

Children: Louis, Catherine, Anna, Lydia, Thomas, Rose-Mary, Guilbert & Rachael Namibian children: Serafina (of blessed memory), Eunice, Mishake & Milka Grandchildren: Emmanuel Jr., Frank, Louis, Olivia, Winston, Daniel, Joel, Albert, Bryan, Yannick, Kyle, Ryan, Gabriella, Donella, Danyelle & Dylan-Thomas Sons & Daughters-in-law: Clare Ebune, Paul Easy, Emmanuel Takow, Tessy Ebune, Kenneth Ndelle (of blessed memory), Juliana Ebune & Sylvester Abanseka