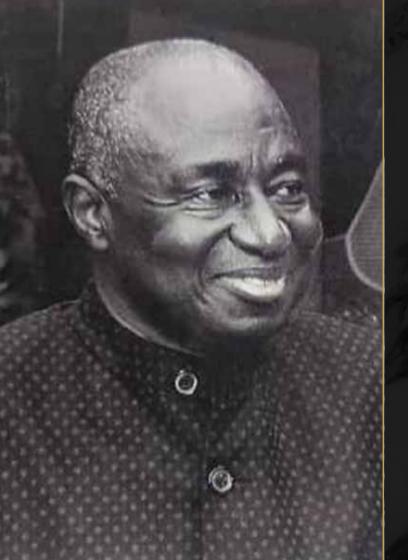


WILLIAM KODWO HAYFORD

21st September 1945 - 24th April 2024



A tribute to a Life Well Lived, A Heart Deeply Loved.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

Forever in Our Hearts



DATE: THURSDAY, 30TH MAY 2024 Venue: All Souls Interdenominational Church, Lashibi Funeral Home

WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear friends and family, Today, we gather here to honour and celebrate the life of William Kodwo Hayford. As we come together in remembrance, let us find solace in each other's presence and draw strength from the cherished memories we hold dear.

May our shared love and support provide comfort during this time of sorrow. Please join us as we pay tribute to a life well lived and bid farewell to our beloved Kodwo.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ATTENDEES

In the loving memory of Kodwo Hayford, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have shown their support, kindness, and condolences during this difficult time. Your presence, thoughts, and gestures of sympathy have provided us with strength and comfort.

We are deeply touched by your outpouring of love and compassion. Thank you for honouring the life and memory of our beloved father and husband with us.





BIOGRAPHY

Early Life and Background

William Kodwo Gyem Hayford was born on September 21, 1945, in Obuasi, Ashanti Region, Ghana, to Opanyin William Etsir Hayford, a miner, and Madam Agnes Araba Wurudua Woode, a petty trader. He had seven siblings. His maternal grandfather was a bench fitter, and his maternal grandmother was a fishmonger. Kodwo's early life was marked by resilience, demonstrated when he survived a near-fatal fall into a pot of soup at the age of two, thanks to his mother's unwavering dedication, a story he often recounted..

Upbringing in Obuasi

Raised in Obuasi by his maternal grandparents, Papa Kwasi Armah and Auntie Akosua, Kodwo learned the values of hard work, discipline, and piety. His grandmother's fish mongering business and his early involvement in the fishing industry laid the foundation for his future career. His Catholic faith was nurtured as he served as an altar boy, reflecting his mother's hopes that he might one day become a priest.

Education, Early Career, and Struggles

After completing his primary education, Kodwo's mother implored her brothers to take him to Accra and help him find a job. In Accra, he lived with his uncle, Anthony Kobina Woode, the Managing Director of the State Insurance Corporation. Kodwo started working at the State Enterprise Furniture Company as a factory hand, responsible for polishing finished furniture. His uncle sought the help of his friend, Mr. Robert Ocran, who offered Kodwo a job at Mankoadze Fisheries Limited in November 1967, setting him on the path to becoming a successful fisherman. At age 23, Kodwo began his career working as a clerk at Mankoadze Company





Rise in the Fishing Industry

Under Mr. Ocran's mentorship, Kodwo's career flourished. Mr. Ocran had promised Kodwo's uncle that if he worked hard and sincerely, he would ensure his success. Despite his modest beginnings as the son of a gold miner, Kodwo rose to significant heights in his profession. He often described himself as a "simple academic fisherman," drawing parallels to the fishermen who followed Jesus Christ and provided sustenance for many. This humble self-description belied his significant achievements in the fishing industry.

Professional Growth and Achievements

In the early 1970s, Kodwo contemplated moving to America for better opportunities with his three friends John Nortey, Nee Abloh, and Alexander Nettey from Mankoadze, but he decided to stay in Ghana, believing his future lay with Mankoadze Fisheries. He worked in the engineering workshop under Mr. Paul Victor Obeng, later transitioning to the fishing sector as Operations Manager after Mr. Obeng joined the government of former head of state, J.J. Rawlings.

Professional Milestones

By 1989, Kodwo had risen to significant positions within Mankoadze Fisheries. He was transferred to a joint venture company founded by Mr. Ocran and Star Kist International. After administrative restructuring, Kodwo was appointed Managing Director in June 1991. The company's acquisition by Heinz Seafood Limited in 1997 led to further changes. Under his leadership, the company underwent several transformations, eventually being acquired by MWBrands and restructured as TTV Limited.



In September 2003, MWBrands made Kodwo a shareholder. In November of the same year, he was appointed Chairman of the company. His tenure at TTV as Board Chairman and Managing Director, alongside Mr. Adolfo Valsecchi, Mr. Philip Saint Pern, the management team, the TTV Union, and others, significantly improved the company's fortunes.

Personal Life and Legacy

Kodwo's personal life was deeply intertwined with his professional journey. He met his wife Olivia while working at Mankoadze, and their marriage of over 54 years was blessed with children. To honor his mother, he named his first daughter Ama Wurudua, after Auntie Araba, and his other children Maame Gyim and Kwesi Amarh after his grandmother and great-grandfather, respectively. He often credited his success to the support of his family, friends, and mentors.

In 2001, Kodwo became unwell, and his mobility was impaired as a result. However, with the help of his crutches he diligently climbed three flights of stairs to his office each day for 10 years until his retirement in 2011.

Kodwo's story is one of perseverance, faith, and the power of mentorship. From humble beginnings, he rose to become a prominent figure in the fishing industry, always acknowledging the contributions of those around him. His legacy is a testament to the impact of hard work, resilience, and community support.



Acknowledgments

Throughout his career, Kodwo emphasized that his achievements were not his alone. He expressed deep gratitude to Mr. Adolfo Valsecchi, Mr. Philip Saint Pern, YDG, the TTV Union, and the Fish Mummies who supported him through thick and thin. He also recognized the support of the Tuna Association, the management and staff of Pioneer Food Cannery, local suppliers, stevedore companies, transporters, and the Korean community in Tema.

In moments of reflection, Kodwo often mentioned his late uncle Anthony Wood and the late Robert Ocran, acknowledging their pivotal roles in his life and career. Their belief in his potential transformed his journey, enabling him to become a respected leader in the industry.

Kodwo's life is a remarkable example of what can be achieved with determination, faith, and the unwavering support of a loving community. His life is a testament to hard work, perseverance, and the transformative power of mentorship. From his humble beginnings in Obuasi to his rise as a prominent figure in the fishing industry, his story is one of resilience and success. His journey illustrates how dedication and the support of loved ones can lead to remarkable achievements. May his story continues to inspire and guide future generations.





ORDER OF SERVICE BURIAL SERVICE FOR THE LATE MR WILLIAM K. HAYFORD OFFICIATING CLERGY

Very Rev Father Sesenyo Quarshie of Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Sakumano Rev Father Joy Ofori-Kumeni

IN ATTENDANCE

Sanctified Voices

PART ONE

Reception of the body Filing past Tributes Biography

PART 2

Liturgy of the Word Processional Hymn Intro Kyrie Ist Reading: Rev 14:13 Wisdom 3:1-6





Responsorial Psalm Gospel Acclamation Jn 6:39 Gospel: Luke 12:35-40 Homily Prayer of the Faithful Offertory & Commendation Sign of Peace

EULOGY & COMMENDATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & ANNOUNCEMENT FINAL COMMENDATION, BENEDICTION

PART 3

Grave Side Processional Hymn... Yes, Heaven is the Prize Blessing of the grave Prayers Give me the wings of faith to rise Vote of thanks by a family member - Final Prayer and Blessings





A PICTORIAL WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE











TRIBUTE FROM MRS. OLIVIA K. HAYFORD (WIFE)

To everything there is a season, a time to every purpose under the heaven, a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck what is planted and a time to speak. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 7.

The only certainty in life is death. Though whenever it occurs, it is so unexpected, no words can express our grief.

There are tears in my eyes, sorrow in my heart and deep pain in my soul, but I will remember the words of King David who in a similar situation exclaimed "I was silent, I would not open my mouth, for you are the one who had done this." All that they are saying and all that I heard, I will keep silent.

Mr. Hayford and I met at a very young age. I thank the Almighty God for the 54 years we have been together. We passed through the good and challenging times.

My children and I say thank you for all the fatherly care they have received from you. I pray that after the 24 years of sickness and pains you went through, you are now resting with your maker. As he departs, may his good deeds be our guide as we move in life.

Kodwo, we will miss you greatly, however, we take consolation with knowledge that, you are resting in the peaceful arms of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Fare thee well. Till we meet again, Amen.



TRIBUTE FROM CHILDREN (ANTHONY, MINA, LYSSA & ROBERT)

Daa, have you really left us? Our lives feel so empty. We took you to the hospital, and you did not come back home. We miss your morning calls, checking on us, telling us how you're doing, and asking about your grandchildren. Are we never going to hear your voice on the phone again? Are you really never coming back to your room? We know the past few years have been incredibly tough for you, medically, physically, and mentally. Despite everything, you always persevered. You told us so many times the story of how you survived as a young child, bearing the permanent scars on your body. You were always a fighter, and each hospital visit brought you back home. Why is it different this time? Our hearts are broken, and each time we realise you're not coming back, the sadness we felt on the morning of April 24th overwhelms us again.

Growing up, you were the greatest provider any child could ask for. You never refused us anything we needed. You taught us to distinguish between needs and wants, and for that, we are grateful. It has taught us to spend wisely. You were amazing not only to us but also to our friends. Our friends were yours too, and you always asked about them by name. You were always ready to help anyone in need. Your generosity was boundless, and we believe it extended your life many times over.

Dad, your work here on earth is now complete. Auntie Araba would be so proud of you. You ensured that family, friends, and colleagues had business opportunities and careers, enabling them to provide for their own families.

You often called yourself a humble academic fisherman. In your career, you excelled in many ways, thanks to two people who gave you a chance.



You transformed countless lives all over the world with just a basic education qualification, achieving unimaginable heights in the fishing industry. Even in retirement, you were a mentor, always ready to offer advice. Your passion for the fishing industry in Ghana was evident, and the tributes we have received since your passing are a testament to the lives you touched. Uncle Kobina, Mr. R. Ocran, and Auntie Araba would be proud.

Each of us, your children, was specially assigned to you by God, and you fathered us beyond human expectations. Thank you for teaching us life's principles: to be hardworking, seize opportunities, be respectful, diligent, and most importantly, God-fearing.

Rest now, Dad, your work is done. You have left an indelible mark on earth. You achieved so much, and we pray that God grants you His best resting place. Though our earthly lives will now be devoid of your physical presence, we take comfort in knowing you are in a place without pain or discomfort. We believe you left at God's ordained time.

Your work here is done, and you excelled at it. Thank you for the life, smiles, laughter, advice, encouragement, and wisdom you shared with us countless times. Your perseverance and good works will be your legacy on earth. We will teach your grandchildren the life principles you imparted to us

God grant you eternal rest.

Rest well Dad, you will always be in Tonys heart. Rest well Dad, Mina will always miss you. Rest well Dad, Mona Lyssa will miss you dearly. Rest well Dad, Robert will miss his best friend.



TRIBUTE FROM SIBLINGS

"If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Roman 14:8 (NIV)

"Though the star may fade and the seasons change, love endures beyond the veil of time, where memories linger as whispers of the heart, guiding us through the shadows of loss with the promise of eternal reunion."

We are here not only to mourn our dear brother, Mr. William Kodwo Hayford, Breda Kodwo, as we affectionately called him, but also to thank God almighty for the beautiful blessing he gave us through our brother whose mortal remains lay before us today.

Breda, you were the second oldest but played the arduous role of a father to all of us right from your very young age to your very last breath.

How can we find the words to say how much we have missed you, already? Although we loved you dearly, we still could not hold on to you, to make you to stay with us any longer than the Lord himself had allowed. The timing, we do not understand either. All we have left is the sweet memories of the beautiful relationship we shared as siblings.

You ensured our relationship was closely knit. Your constant calls to check on us, our spouses and children is something we hold dear. We fondly remember how you would randomly call to ask us about family issues, sometimes about our great grandparents which we often laughed about.



You were the first to settle in Accra after your education at Obuasi in the Ashanti region, and ensured that we also joined you. Through your hard work you rose to become the Managing Director of TTV Limited, a renowned fishing company in Tema. It did not end there. You secured employment for some of us at TTV and introduced some of us to the fishing business.

Breda, we are unable to produce the right words to express the pain we are going through now. Our brother, friend, and our all, we miss you every day. Your generous nature, your love for humanity and your constant jokes made a lasting impression on all who encountered you. How can we ever forget this beautiful bond we shared as siblings?

Your absence has created a big vacuum in our hearts. You were one of the strongest pillars in the family. You were an epitome of love and sacrifice. The unity you fostered in us can never be broken.

These past few weeks have been the most difficult for us in our entire lives. We just have to face this difficult reality that, it is now impossible to see and communicate with you, our dear brother ever again.

Through this crippling grief, we are encouraged by the same God you trusted throughout your years on earth.



As we try to navigate the path ahead, we find strength in your wisdom, which was a source of comfort in our most difficult times, and also in the legacy you have left behind; love, kindness, and compassion.

Breda Kodwo, rest easy in the bosom of our Lord, knowing that your memory will forever be etched in our hearts, a proof to the profound impact you had on our lives. Until we meet again, may your spirit continue to guide and inspire us, lighting our way through the darkness until we are united once more.

Our dear brother, we miss you a lot and you will forever be in our hearts.

Rest in Peace till we meet again.

AMEN



TRIBUTE FROM NEPHEWS AND NIECES

Psalm 46:10 Be still and know that I am God. In Loving Memory of Our Beloved Uncle Kodwo Hayford. Today, we gather here with heavy hearts to bid farewell to our dear Uncle Kodwo Hayford. As we mourn the loss of such an incredible person, we also celebrate the extraordinary life he lived and the everlasting impact he had on each of our lives. An entire book would not be sufficient if we each have to pen our experiences with uncle Kodwo Hayford as we fondly referred to our dear uncle. Uncle Kodwo was not only our relative, but also our guiding light, mentor, and a cherished friend support.

Uncle Kodwo was a source of unwavering support, kindness, generosity, and unconditional love. He had a heart of gold and was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in need, especially when it comes to education. His selflessness and compassion touched the lives of many, and his acts of kindness continue to inspire us to this day.

You are gone uncle, but to us you still live in our memories and hearts. Death hasn't been fair to us at all because we believe you still had more beautiful moments ahead to share with us. Like they say "God knows best" The Lord God has called you to be with Him. Who are we to prevent that. All we can say is Rest well our dear uncle.



TRIBUTE FROM HARRIET GRAHAM

Dad, you weren't only a father-in-law but a pillar of strength and kindness in my life. You were a simple man who possessed a heart overflowing with genuine love and care for everyone around you. You were simple, affable, generous and kind to a fault.

Your loving acceptance and warmth made me feel welcomed into the family from the very beginning. I'll never forget after our wedding when you jokingly cautioned Kwesi not to rush into things, your words "...." (those were for our ears only) and you requested a report back from me the next day ...then followed by your infectious laughter.

When Kwesi faced a daunting health challenge very early in our marriage, you provided unwavering support, offering constant encouragement and advice even when you were facing your own health challenges. Our conversations were always laced with your trademark humour. Your willingness to ask very sensitive and private questions (that no one will ever dare ask) demonstrated the depth of your love for Kwesi and me, creating a safe space for open conversation and also showcased the depth of your compassion.

One of Dad's most remarkable qualities was his ability to connect with people effortlessly. His anecdotes and narratives kept us entertained, and his laughter was irresistibly infectious. If ever you met Dad, you will never forget him. When I shared his passing with one of my Holy Child School friends who had the honour of meeting him just for a couple of hours when he visited us in Leeds in 2006, her response was "Oh that your sweet in-law...I remember him paaa, may God grant him eternal rest".



You made our visit to Ghana in December 2022 very memorable. Almost every morning you will send for us so you can talk to us about everything and anything. And we would have to find an excuse to sneak out on your stories. You complimented me every day before we stepped out. "Eii Lady Harriet, only your shoe oo …", "or as for this your hairstyle...[then laughter]... okay enjoy your day"

Dad, you fought your health challenges with remarkable grace and dignity. Your positivity remained steadfast, ... and you would often say to me "Lady Harriet don't worry, I'm not going anywhere soon" a testament to your character and strength of spirit.

Dad, as we bid farewell to you today, I mourn your passing but also celebrate the life you lived. Thank you for your kindness, love, warmth, wisdom, laughter, and the countless memories. Rest well, dearest Dad, knowing that you were deeply loved and will always be remembered. You were simply the BEST!

2 Corinthians 5:1 REST IN PEACE.

TRIBUTE FROM ADWOA AMANOBEA HAYFORD

My phone would ring, it would be you, and the first words that would come out of your mouth would always be, "Lady Adwoa, my Daughter-in-law, how are you doing today?" This would be followed by another favourite line "Do you know you are married to a Gentleman's son and do you know a Gentleman's son is also a Gentleman?!"

Dad was a very warm, approachable and chatty person who could hold a conversation with just about anyone and on just about everything. Oh how I remember very fondly the long conversations we would have and the stories you would tell me of your life, your adventures and special moments.



I can confidently say I heard each story over ten times but each moment you recounted them I would listen attentively wondering if the account that time was going to be any different from the one prior but each time it was exactly the same but I loved to listen to them nonetheless. Oh what I would give to hear you retell me another of your stories and listen to your contagious "signature laugh".

I remember our very first introduction while Robert and I were courting. I had come to Ghana and you kindly sent a car to fetch me thinking my destination was going to be your residence in Sakumono. I soon found out you had instructed the driver to take me to your office at the harbour. I was ever so nervous not knowing what to expect.

As your Secretary saw me into your office and asked that I took a seat, you took one look at me and grinned and started laughing and said "Adwoa, why are you looking so nervous and dressed like you're coming for a job interview? If you're going to become a Hayford then you don't need to be nervous, be relaxed and feel at home"! That was all the introduction I needed to know that you and the rest of the family would accept me wholeheartedly into the Hayford household.

Oh Dad, how can I not remember you also for your love of hats. Whenever we would plan a visit to Ghana I would comb the shops in Leeds looking for hats of different styles, patterns and colours to bring to you as a gift. You would take a look at the hats and instantly comment that it would go perfectly with one of your tailored shirts. "Adwoa my Daughter-in-law, you know how to make me happy"! you would say.

Dad, even though you are not here today, you live on forever in my heart and thoughts through the lovely, fond and happy memories we shared. You fought a good fight and now that it's time to go to rest, I'm certain you are resting in the bosom of your maker.



TRIBUTE FROM EDWARD AND WILLIAM AMUZU (GRAND CHILDREN)

Grandpa, you have truly left us. We, your grandchildren, were heartbroken on April 24, 2024, when Aunt Lyssa told us you had passed. We are going to miss you deeply, Grandpa, and the advice you always gave us about school, life, and everything else. Your kind words and guidance were something we always cherished and expected from a loving grandfather.

There are things in life we have no control over, and losing you is one of them. It will be hard without you, Grandpa. You will forever be missed and remembered. I will always cherish our conversations about soccer.

Rest in peace, Grandpa.

TRIBUTE FROM SEAN AND SPENCER GRAHAM (GRAND CHILDREN)

I'll forever miss Granddad's tales, his laughter, and his kindness. He had a way of calling my brother 'trickish' that always made us smile. He often spoke about us gathered at his funeral, sharing heartfelt tributes. I wish he had stayed a bit longer because I really wanted to come and see him again. Rest peacefully in heaven dear Grandad. SEAN SPENCER

My grandfather was a very simple man. He was passionate about fishing, loved telling stories and every time I talked to him, he had a new story to tell. My first time of meeting him in person was during our trip to Ghana in December 2022. He told us many stories and he made us laugh a lot. I'm sure he is making a lot of angels laugh in heaven too. He was very kind and smart too and I loved going to his room in the morning to chat with him. I will miss him so much when we go to Ghana. Have fun in heaven Granddad.

SPENCER GRAHAM



TRIBUTE FROM ANNABELLE HAYFORD (GRAND CHILD)

Grandpa William was one of my favourite people. When we went to Ghana and I saw him my face lit up with a smile from ear to ear.

We all loved him with all our hearts and though we wanted him to stay with us a bit longer, God was calling him to come and thrive in Heaven.

We now have a guardian angel and Grandpa William will always be with us in spirit everyday.

Lord we pray that Grandpa William will happily thrive in your welcoming land of heaven and you will look after him. We pray for this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A Poem for Grandpa William

Grandpa William, I love you so, As all of us will know, At the end of the day everybody has a time to go, But your star in the sky will have the brightest glow, Grandpa William, I love you so, As every single one of us will know.



TRIBUTE FROM OLIVIA HAYFORD (GRAND CHILD)

Grandpa William was a lovely Grandpa. He always loved to chat with me asking how my day was and how I was doing in school. On Sundays, I light a candle for you in church and pray that God will keep you safe in heaven.

I will miss you but I will never forget you Grandpa William because every night when I look up to the sky and I see a star I know it is you watching down upon me. You are forever going to be with me and you are always going to be my Guardian angel Grandpa.



TRIBUTE FROM MRS. GEORGINA IONE KOBINA-WOODE

Around the end of 1957 / beginning of 1958, I met a young man called Kodwo Gyim who had come from Obuasi to Esikadu, Sekondi, with his maternal grandparents to visit his uncle, Anthony Kobina-Woode of the then Ghana Insurance Company which later became the State Insurance Corporation (S.I.C.). I liked Kodwo when I first saw him. Years later, when I had married his uncle, I saw him again in Accra, he was then an adult. He had come to Accra for help in getting a job through his two uncles, Uncle Kofi, and Uncle Kobina. After a stint in a furniture job, he got settled with Mankoadze Fisheries, through his Uncle Kobina who was friends with the owner, the late Robert Ocran. When his Uncle Kobina passed, Kodwo did not forget us and neither did we. However, after the funeral he indicated that he needed time to get over his uncle's demise, hence he wouldn't be visiting for a while. I told him I understood. The family relationship thereafter got closer and Kodwo was with us at every family celebration. For me, with Kodwo around, I didn't have to buy any fish. He sent fish to me for quite a while, unprompted and on rare occasions I would call to tell him my fish was finished. The courage to make those calls were met with jokes.

There was a time that I needed to get some very important historical information about my late husband from some people outside Accra. I asked Kodwo for help and he gladly arranged transport for me. Then came a turning point in my life, in the year 2003, when the Lord gave me a ministry for widows in need "care for the wounded". When I told Kodwo about it, he freely gave me moral support and some assistance as and when able to, until he retired. "...But blessed is the one who is kind to the needy" Proverbs 14:21b

Kodwo was a rare kind and a good spirited in-law and I pray that the Lord in his mercy heard our prayers for him. May he have eternal rest in Jesus' name.



TRIBUTE FROM THE WOODE COUSINS Tribute by Adwoa, Kwesi, Ekow, Aba, Michael, Daniel et al.

We will always remember our Senior Cousin Kodwo Gyim as one who always stood with us. We used to call him Uncle Kodwo Gyim because of the age gap but one could never tell from the cordiality of our relationships and conversations who was "boss". Our cousin was a gold mine of information and life experiences. He always had us in mind and would call to enquire about us, our wives and children. He would then chat on end about sports, politics, almost everything.

There was always information to share. Regarding his generosity to all, it was countless. He always had an envelope to help one out once invited to witness engagements, funerals, marriage ceremonies and the like. We were particularly enthused by his sense of humour which we believe was rooted in his

Woode family DNA. We always shared laughter through phone calls and visits and we pray that our children will continue with same. Our cousin also loved cars, he was easy going and kind hearted. As cousins, we were gladly cobeneficiaries of the fish he used to bring to our parents. He was definitely a favourite with our mothers.

We had assumed he was on the mend from the surgeries he had and looked forward to his full recovery, so we were shocked and saddened to hear he had passed on. Farewell Kodwo, the Lord grant you eternal rest, Amen.



TRIBUTE FROM THE OFOSU-ADARKWA & GAMBRAH FAMILIES

We have gathered here today to celebrate the life of an extraordinary man, Mr. William Kodwo Hayford. It is a celebration of life because Mr. William Hayford lived as:

A loving friend of the Ofosu-Adarkwa and Gambrah families joined together to the Hayford family through marriage.

A loving father-in-law of Mrs. Adwoa Amanobea Hayford. An affectionate grandpa to grandchildren, Anabelle and Olivia. Collectively, the Ofosu-Adarkwa and Gambrah families celebrate Mr. Hayford's life because he left an indelible mark of excellence on the lives of every member of our family, young and old, that he came in contact with.

His calm disposition, affable smile and wisdom in speech were inspiration for us all and worthy of eternal remembrance. Though Mr. Hayford may be gone from this earth, his legacy forever lives on through the countless memories shared with him. He will indeed be forever remembered as we find solace in the knowledge he is resting in the bosom of the Lord.

Our good friend, Mr. Kodwo Hayford, rest in perfect peace in the Lord.

May his memory continue to inspire and comfort his family and all who knew and loved him.



TRIBUTE FROM PREMIER KEEP-FIT CLUB

Philippians 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control; will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Every once in a while, we are lucky to have known someone who is truly special. The late Kodwo Hayford joined the club when we were training at Parhow Club, Community 2, Tema and was known as PARHOW KEEP FIT CLUB. He served as vice chairman between 1994 - 1995 and was elected as its chairman in 1996 and served for four years when the club moved to its present training grounds and Assumed the name PREMIER KEEP FIT CLUB, Tema.

His tenure was loaded with variety of activities within and without. Other keep fit clubs from Legon, Dansoman etc. were invited to join us for exercises and competitive games like Bend ball, football, tag of war etc. at Michel Camp.

For the 'fisher man' that he was kenkey parties, with tuna and other species of fish were organized on special occasions.

He was the then Managing Director of the erstwhile TTV Ltd. The company club house at community 12 was always available to the Keep fit club.



It's on record that he personally supported most members in various ways. In fact, Mr. Kodwo Hayford was really a generous person by all standards.

The highest of his achievements was his collaboration with a few other members like the late Nii Ayi Bonte, the then Managing Director of TDC, Lawyer S.K.B. Matanawui, Mr. Ofori Darko, Mr. Simon Agah, W.O. Quaye and his team of executives to acquire the land and prepare the present Premier grounds and raise the platform which now stands as our club house.

You will forever be remembered by the past, present and future members for the works you have done for this great club.

Mr. 'H', the many lives you touched and left behind are still labouring to speak of you in the past tense, simply because you live in our hearts and minds.

Kodwo was a special person to so many people and while we grieve his sudden departure, we would also celebrate the gift of having known him. Although you are no longer with us, your memories are forever in our thoughts.

REST IN PEACE.



TRIBUTE FROM SIMON AGAH

It is not an easy task when you have to write a tribute in memory of a close friend and brother. Brother because you always reminded me that we were not friends but brothers. And so it had remained until your passing on.

Invariably, the first calls I received every morning would come from Kodwo checking on me and every member of my family especially your pet boy Senyo. I remember the prank you, the late David Akiti, Rosemary and children pulled on me on my 70th birthday when you came and took me on a wild goose chase to Tutu – a day I will never forget. That showed the strong ties you had with me and my family.

I remember vividly the good moments we shared together not only at work in Mankoadze Fisheries but on several social occasions. Talk about football, we had our daily sessions on Manchester United (your team) and Arsenal which I support.

Kodwo always told me as for me, "I am an iron boy ooo". This strong spirit kept you going stronger. In fact, but for the crutches you were using, nothing showed on you that you had any affliction. In fact, people kept asking me how you managed it to the third floor at TTV Ltd. on a daily basis.

Kodwo, your last few months were tormenting for those of us who had the chance to see and try to encourage you to fight on. But alas, the good Lord has a better need for you in a better world.

We can only say rest well in His bosom. ADIOS AMIGO, ADIOS MY FRIEND AND BROTHER



TRIBUTE FROM KOFI YANKAH

If I was asked to name one person, I bonded very well with when I started working here in Tema, it will surely be Kodwo Hayford. We have a lot of history together. He was not just a friend; he was my brother.

I met Mr. Hayford about 50 years ago at Mankoadze Fisheries Ltd. He was a coworker. Our relationship grew from 'zero to hundred'. As time passed, we were both transferred to the same department to manage both Ghana Tuna and Pioneer Tuna. He was subsequently made the Head of department.

Kodwo and I became family, we did everything together. He was kind to everyone who encountered him. He loved to go out but never took anything during our outings. That was one remarkable thing about him.

There was one thing he liked a lot but I will not mention it here.

K.H as you leave us to join your maker, my prayer is that YOU REST WELL IN HIS BOSSOM TILL WE MEET AGAIN.



TRIBUTE FROM WILLIAM OFORI-DARKO (NANA DARKO)

If"A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24 NKJV

It's been a very difficult duty putting together this eulogy in memory of one I hold so dear and have come to regard as a true elder brother more than a friend. A relationship that started well over 30 years ago as casual friends, quickly transitioned and blossomed into that of two inseparable brothers of the same family.

Indeed Kodwo, as he insisted I called him, and I, virtually became part of our respective nuclei and extended families. There was hardly a day we did not speak on the phone.

My home was his own and he often spent time on weekends, either alone or together with me at my country home at Tutu Akuapem. In fact my guest room became the sole preserve for Kodwo that it was christened and still called "Mr Hayford's Room" several years after his frequent visits had ceased due to his failing health.

Mr Kodwo, as I affectionately called him most times, was a bubbly, pleasant, kindhearted and a very generous person, who freely extended help to the needy and the underprivileged. Aside from the numerous acts of generosity the Educated Fisherman, as he humorously called himself, will particularly be remembered by my family for his regular supply of quality fish which, continued even long after his retirement from active fishing.



He particularly adopted my mom as his own and dotted on her with such generosity and love that knew no bounds. And the old lady is now just inconsolable and beside herself with so much grief. We have been there for each other through good and bad times and Kodwo's prolonged ill health, which rendered him immobile and consigned to the wheelchair for so many years, had particularly been a great source of pain and anxiety for me and my family. And in line with the ethos of our friendship, we together with other friends mobilized every resource and assistance we could muster towards his recovery but all to no avail.

Kodwo, you have fought a gallant and spirited fight against this strange and debilitating sickness, and we were all hopeful you would one day fully recover for us to have a joyous celebration. That was however, never to be and you have gone to be with your maker.

You have been a true friend and a cherished brother and I will sorely miss you. I am however comforted in the knowledge that you are now in a better place, devoid of all the unbearable pain and trauma you were going through. You are physically gone from us but the memories of your kindness and humanity will continue to reside in our hearts forever.

May the Lord grant you a perfect and peaceful rest until the day of the resurrection when we shall reunite.

Rest well my big brother. Nyame nfa wo kra nsie.

ADIEU.



TRIBUTE FROM RAPH DOE

My big brother and friend Kodwo Hayford

I got to know Mr Kodwo Hayford better when he joined Parhow Keepfit club at community 2.

I was then the secretary so I had close interactions with most of the members.

Together with other close friends, Nana Yankah, Simon Agah, Nana Ofori Darko, Brig. Gen. AK Dzisi (RTD) and my good self, we shared ideas and had business collaborations.

We spent weekends together in Elmina and Akuapim Tutu and had great fun. In fact, Mr Hayford, Brig. Gen. AK Dzisi (RTD) and myself are honorary citizens of Akuapim Tutu – courtesy of Nana Ofori Darko.

When Kodwo got sick we all rallied together and gave him our brotherly support. Kodwo, you never allowed the sickness to put you down and so our weekend trips to Tutu and other places of interest continued.

Kodwo Hayford was really a strong character. His regular response to how do feel today was 'I am fine and very okay; then he will ask about my wife and daughter.

Farewell my dear brother, such is life, meeting and parting. It is time to go. Your friendship was a blessing and I will miss you greatly.

TRIBUTE FROM DEDE AKITI

We gather here to honour the memory of Mr. Hayford, a man whose extraordinary friendship with my father, David Akiti, blossomed into a bond that extended to our entire family. He was a loving and exemplary person, embodying the true meaning of friendship and fatherhood.

Growing up, I vividly recall Mr. Hayford's daily visits after work, his face beaming with cheerfulness as he showered us with gifts. He quickly became more than a friend; he became a beloved father figure. He became an integral part of our lives, caring deeply for each of us and forging unique connections with everyone in the family. Whether it was offering guidance, resolving conflicts, or simply sharing a laugh, Mr. Hayford was always there, a pillar of support and unwavering love.

My father, who affectionately called him Kodwo, often spoke of their adventures and shared experiences. Their bond was a beautiful testament to the power of friendship, filled with mutual admiration, respect, and unwavering loyalty. Never once did I witness a moment of discord between them; their friendship was always on the upswing, a constant source of joy and laughter.

When my father David passed away unexpectedly in 2014, Mr. Hayford stepped into the role of father with grace and compassion. He became our confidante, our cheerleader, and our unwavering supporter. He celebrated our milestones, offered words of encouragement, and reminded us of the love and pride our father would have undoubtedly felt.

The loss of my father left a profound void in Mr. Hayford's heart, but he cherished their memories, often sharing stories of their time together. Their friendship was a constant source of joy, filled with laughter. It was a friendship that knew no bounds, a testament to the enduring power of love and respect.



Even as he neared the end of his journey, Mr. Hayford remained sharp reminiscing about the good old days and reminding us to care for our mother, Portia, whom he held in high regard. His love and concern extended to all of us, cementing his place in our hearts as a true father figure.

Today, we celebrate the life of Mr. Hayford, a man who exemplified the very best of humanity. His laughter, his warmth, his kindness, and his authenticity will forever be etched in our memories. He was a father to us in every sense of the word, a man who loved us unconditionally and supported us through every twist and turn of life

Mr. Hayford, you were an exceptional father to us, a role model, and a guiding light. Your presence in our lives was a gift, and your memory will forever be cherished. We miss your voice, your laughter, and your unwavering support. It seems surreal that we will never hear your voice again, but we find solace in knowing that you are now reunited with our beloved father, David. Together, may you find eternal peace and joy in the presence of the Lord.

Though you may be gone, your legacy will live on in our hearts forever. Rest in perfect peace, dear Mr. Hayford. Until we meet again, know that you will always be remembered and cherished as a true father and an extraordinary friend.



TRIBUTE FROM TTV LTD ALUMNI (GHANA TUNA & PIONEER TUNA)

Kodwo Hayford: A Visionary Leader and a Shining Star!

As the Bible says, "Everything that happens in this world happens at the time that God has chosen" (Eccl. 3:1-2).

Today, we gather to celebrate the life and legacy of an extraordinary individual, Kodwo Hayford. A man of exceptional intelligence, wit, and charm. Kodwo's impact on our lives and the world around him will be deeply felt for generations to come.

Through his tireless efforts and strategic vision, Kodwo propelled our organisation to new heights, expanding our reach and influence during his tenure. His infectious sense of humour and impeccable style inspired us to strive for excellence, and his unwavering belief in our potential motivated us to push beyond our limits.

Kodwo was a father figure to all, with a remarkable ability to motivate, support, and push us when needed. He was a great boss who put his employees' growth above his own ego, empowering us to achieve great things. As a good Managing Director and Board Chairman of TTV Ltd, he never singled people out for their mistakes but encouraged us to learn from them and come back stronger.

Kodwo's greatest gift was his ability to make everyone feel seen, heard, and valued. He had a unique talent for understanding and connecting with people from all walks of life, fostering a sense of community and belonging wherever he went. His love for TTV was palpable, and under his leadership, we witnessed the realisation of a long-held dream the construction of our state-of-the-art office complex.



Kodwo Hayford was more than just a leader; he was a mentor, a friend, and a champion of human potential. His zest for life was contagious, and his legacy will continue to inspire us to embrace our passions, pursue our dreams, and cherish every moment we share with one another.

Mr. Hayford, you accomplished many good things in life, working hard and following the path of honesty. You made a difference in many lives, and we are grateful to have been part of your journey. Your legacy will live on in our hearts, and your shining personality will continue to inspire us. You touched our lives in the best way possible, and we will miss you greatly. May we find strength and solace in the memories we shared together. Your legacy will live on through the love and wisdom you passed on to us.

Rest well, our father, mentor, boss, and friend. May God reward you with a peaceful afterlife.

There are no goodbyes, for wherever you are, you will always be in our hearts. Rest well, our beloved mentor, William Kodwo Hayford. May your legacy inspire us to emulate your wisdom, compassion, and grace." Live on in our hearts Kodwo, may the angels lead you safe to your maker.

REST THEE WELL.



TRIBUTE FROM HON CARLOS AHENKORAH

What a shock!! This is unbelievable such a great man!! Wow!! I've known you from the late 80's till date and share fond memories of your wise counsel and strong leadership. You led Parhow keep fit club diligently till we moved to our new location in community 11, now Premier keep fit.

Your legacy lives on forever. I have never doubted your prowess at being an astute business man with a kind heart and a huge sense of humour. Your ability to bring people together is quite remar and outstanding. You're leaving this world with a vacuum never to be filled.

My wife and I are distraught with sorrow. We speak to you every now and then to check up, talk about the kids and pick up your mind on worrying issues. You've left a vacuum Mr Hayford!! God keep you in his bosom.

REST WELL GOOD FRIEND!!



SILENTLY THE SHADES OF EVENING

- Silently the shades of evening, Gather round my lonely door, Silently they bring before me, Faces I shall see no more.
- 2. O not lost but gone before us, Let them never be forgot, Sweet their memory to the lonely, In our hearts they perish not.
- 3. Dear such holy memories cluster, Like the stars when storms are past, Pointing up to that far heaven, Where we hope to meet at last.



AMAZING GRACE

- Godhead here in hiding, whom I do adore; Masked by these bare shadows, shape and nothing more. See, Lord, at thy service low lies here a heart, Lost, all lost in wonder at the God thou art.
- 2. Seeing, touching, tasting are in thee deceived; How says trusty hearing? That shall be believed; What God's Son has told me, take for truth I do; Truth himself speaks truly, or there's nothing true.
- 3. On the Cross thy Godhead made no sign to men; Here thy very manhood steals from human ken; Both are my confession, both are my belief, And I pray the prayer of the dying thief.
- 4. Jesus, whom I look at shrouded here below,
 I beseech thee send me what I long for so,
 Some day to gaze on thee face to face in light,
 And be blest for ever with thy glory's sight.



GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN

 God be with you till we meet again, By his counsels guide, uphold you, With his sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.

Chorus: Till we meet (3x) at Jesus' feet Till we meet (2x) God be with you, till we meet again.

Cod be with you till we meet again,
 'Neath his wings protecting hide you,
 Daily manna still provide you;
 God be with you till we meet again.

- 3. God be with you till we meet again, When life's perils thick confound you, Put his arm unfailing round you, God be with you till we meet again.
- 4. God be with you till we meet again, Keep love's banner floating o'er you, Smile death's threatening wave before you,

God be with you till we meet again.



IN HEAVENLY LOVE ABIDING

- In heavenly love abiding No change my heart shall fear. And safe is such confiding, For nothing changes here. The storm may roar without me, My heart may low be laid. But God is round about me, And can I be dismayed?
- 2. Wherever He may guide me, No want shall turn me back. My shepherd is beside me, And nothing can I lack.

His wisdom acts like heaven, It moves us from within. He knows the way to heaven, Which only love can win.

3. Green pastures are before me, Which yet I have not seen; Bright skies will soon be o'er me, Where the dark clouds have been. My hope I cannot measure, My path to life is free; My Saviour has my treasure, And He will walk with me.



GUIDE ME O, YOU GREAT REDEEMER

- In Christ there is no East or West, In him no South or North, But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2. In him shall true hearts everywhere Their high communion find; His service is the golden cord, Close binding all mankind.
- 3. Join hands then brothers of the faith, Whate'er your race may be! Who serves my Father as a son Is surely kind to me.
- 4. In Christ now meet both East and West, In him meet South and North, All Christly souls are one in him Throughout the whole wide earth.



BE STILL MY SOUL

 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side; Bear patiently the cross of grief and pain; Leave to your God to order and provide; In every change he faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend,

Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

- Be still, my soul: your God will undertake, To guide the future as he has the past. Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake, All now mysterious shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the tempests still obey, His voice, who ruled them once on Galilee.
- 3. Be still, my soul: When dearest friends depart, And all is darkened in the vale of tears, Then you shall better know his love, his heart, Who comes to soothe our sorrows, calm your fears.

Be still, my soul: for Jesus can repay, From his own fullness all he takes away.

4. Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on When we shall be for ever with the Lord, When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

Sorrow forgotten, love's purest joys restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.



THERE IS A LAND OF PEACE AND LOVE

- There is a land of peace and love, Where troubled hearts find rest; No gloom, nor storm, nor lonely night, Can ever dim th'eternal light Of that bright home above.
- 2. Angels and throngs of saints are there, Circling the Throne of God: Crowned with twelve stars, a Virgin Queen, In the pure light of God is seen, Immaculate and fair.
- 3. No sorrow e'er can reach that shore, And there no tear shall fall. Earth's glories all shall pass away, Lost in the light of endless day, And grief shall be no more.
- 4. And oh! when on our raptured gaze Shall break the sight of God. Then shall our harboured spirits rest,

Wrapt in the vision of the blest, Mid songs of ceaseless praise.

- 5. How sweet for wearied souls to rest, Near to the Sacred Heart, Sheltered within Love's sacred shrine, Resting at Jesus' feet divine, There to be ever blest.
- 6. Then shall life's fevered toil be o'er, Our restless hearts be calm; Then shall these anxious yearning cease, Our ransomed spirits rest in peace, On Heaven's eternal shore.
- 7. Fear not, though still earth's darkening gloom,
 Surrounds life's lone path;
 Jesus has shown the heaven-ward way,
 Which leads to realms of endless day,
 To our dear Father's home.



REJOICE THE LORD IS KING

1. Rejoice! the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore; Mortals, give thanks and sing, And triumph evermore:

Refrain:

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice; Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

2. Jesus the Saviour reigns, The God of truth and love; When he had purged our stains, He took his seat above:

Refrain:

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice; Rejoice, again I say, rejoice. 3. His Kingdom cannot fail; He rules o'er earth and heaven; The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus given:

Refrain:

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice; Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

4. He sits at God's right hand, Till all his foes submit, And bow to his command, And fall beneath his feet:

Refrain:

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice; Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.



THROUGH ALL THE CHANGING SCENES OF LIFE

- Through all the changing scenes of life, In trouble and in joy, The praises of my God shall still, My heart and tongue employ.
- 2. Of His deliverance I will boast, Till all that are distressed, From my example comfort take, And charm their griefs to rest.
- 3. O magnify the Lord with me, With me exalt His name; When in distress to Him I called, He to my rescue came.

- 4. The hosts of God encamp around, The dwellings of the just; Deliverance He affords to all, Who on His succour trust.
- 5. O make but trial of His love; Experience will decide, How blest they are, and only they, Who in His truth confide.
- 6. Fear Him, you saints and you will then, Have nothing else to fear; Make you His service your delight, He'll make your wants His care.



WHEN THE DAY OF TOIL IS DONE

- 1. When the day of toil is done, When the race of life is run, Father, grant your wearied one, Rest for evermore.
- 2. When the strife of sin is stilled, When the foe within is killed, Be your gracious word fulfilled; Peace for evermore.
- 3. When the darkness melts away, At the breaking of the day, Bid us hail the cheering ray, Light for evermore.
- 4. When the heart by sorrow tried,

Feels at length its throbs subside, Bring us, where all tears are dried, Joy for evermore.

- 5. When the vanished days we yearn, Days that never can return, Teach us in your love to learn, Love for evermore.
- 6. When the breath of life is flown, When the grave must claim its own, Lord of life, be ours your crown, Life for evermore.



JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN WITH MILK AND HONEY BLEST

1. Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest,

Beneath your contemplation, Sink heart and voice oppressed. I know not, Oh, I know not, What joys await us there, What radiancy of glory, What bliss beyond compare.

2. They stand, those halls of Sion, All jubilant with song, And bright with many an angel, And all the martyr throng; The prince is ever in them, The daylight is serene: The pastures of the blessed, Are deck'd in glorious sheen.

- 3. There is the throne of David; And there, from care released, The shout of them that triumph, The song of them that feast; And they, who with their leader, Have conquer'd in the fight, For ever and for ever, Are clad in robes of white.
- 4. O sweet and blessed country, The home of God's elect! O sweet and blessed country, That eager hearts expect! Jesus, in mercy bring us, To that dear land of rest; Who are, with God the Father, And Spirit, ever blest.



NOW THE LABOURER'S TASK IS O'ER

1. Now the Labourer's task is o'er, Now the battle day is past, Now upon the farther shore, Lands the voyager at last.

Chorus:

Father in your gracious keeping Leave we now your servant sleeping.

2. There the tears of earth are dried, There its hidden things are clear, There the work of life is tried, By a juster Judge than here. Chorus:

Father in your gracious keeping Leave we now your servant sleeping.

3. Earth to earth, and dust to dust, Calmly now the words we say, Left behind we wait in trust, For the resurrection day.

Chorus:

Father in your gracious keeping Leave we now your servant sleeping.



DAYS AND MOMENTS QUICKLY FLYING

- Days and moments quickly flying, Blend the living with the dead; Soon will you and I be lying, Each within our narrow bed.
- Soon our souls to God who gave them, Will have sped their rapid flight; Able now by grace to save them, O, that, while we can, we might.

- 3. Jesu, infinite Redeemer, Maker of this mighty frame. Teach, O teach us to remember, What we are and whence we came.
- 4. Whence we came and whither wending, Soon we must through darkness go, To inherit bliss unending, Or eternity of woe.



O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

- 1. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.
- 2. Under the shadow of your throne, our saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defence is sure.
- 3. Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame, From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.

- 4. A thousand ages in your sight, Are like an evening gone, Short as the watch that ends the night, Before the rising sun.
- 5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Bears all its sons away; They fly forgotten as a dream, Dies at the opening day.
- 6. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be you our guard while troubles





FAREWELL MESSAGE

Dear loved ones,

As we conclude today's ceremonies, we extend our deepest gratitude for your presence and support in celebrating the remarkable life of William Kodwo Hayford. Each story shared and every memory recounted today has painted a vivid picture of Kodwo's indelible impact on our lives. Though we part ways now, let his spirit continue to inspire us in our daily lives, guiding us with the wisdom and love he imparted. May we carry forward his legacy with honour, and may our memories of him bring us peace and comfort in the days to come.

Farewell, dear Kodwo, until we meet again.

Memorial Website Invitation

To continue honoring the memory of William Kodwo Hayford and to ensure that his legacy lives on, we invite you to visit our dedicated memorial website. This digital space serves as a gathering place for all who cherished Kodwo, offering a platform to share tributes, relive memories through photos, and stay connected in remembrance.

Please make use of the QR code provided to directly access the site at your convenience. Whether you wish to reflect quietly, share a story, or simply revisit cherished moments, this website stands as a lasting tribute to Kodwo's life and the profound impact he had on each of us.

www.williamkhayford.com



Thank You for your Sympathy

We are beyond grateful for all the support you have shown us throughout this time of grief.

Your kindness and thoughts will never be forgotten. The family of

WILLIAM KODWO HAYFORD





WILLIAM KODWO HAYFORD 21st September 1945 - 24th April 2024