

## TRIBUTE BY THE ADU-ARYEE FAMILY

To us, Auntie 'Otsoo or our Aunt Apaloo has been there all our lives – from childhood and into our adult lives. She was our mother's baby sister and her maid-of-honour.

They were always around each other. She stood in when "Sister Oyoo" (our mother) was unavailable for whatever reason, taking us into her home whenever it was needed; Cynthia spent a significant part of her childhood with Auntie 'Otsoo. She was our mother's great support in many ways so that our lives enmeshed with that of her family.

Auntie 'Otsoo was tough, hardworking and resourceful with a no-nonsense attitude. She took a keen interest in cooking and housekeeping, about which she had firm ideas. Even our own children came to know the "gbei wonu" which was cooked in a proper pot and smelt good enough to eat. She was generous, opening up her house to us and our other cousins, visiting at school and remembering birthdays. What these actions cost her, she did not let on much. Such was the relationship between her and her siblings, aka "sister m3 oo".

And was she intimidating! When we were younger, we used to shiver when she would insist that we do the housework in a particular way, or else! What a glorious day it was when we could tell her we were no longer afraid of her bark, and were too big for her to bite! How she laughed when we stood up to her.

Looking back, she did play a significant part in molding us and teaching us many of life's lessons. She had travelled widely, she knew family and loved family, and we learnt about our extended family both at Osu Ashanti and Kinkawe through her.

As we mourn her, we are also thankful to God for giving her to us. Life threw her curves but she survived. In doing so she left us many lessons and many memories.

Auntie 'Otsoo, we will miss you greatly. Every time we pick up a Ga Presbyterian Hymnbook to have a sing-song, we will remember you as we sing the truths of God's word.

Yaa Wo Dzogbann.

Naa, Nii Adu, Nii Ayi and Cynthia.