**GOODBYE MY LOVE: RICHARD MODOKPE UGBEYE**

Richie, the news of your death was shocking and unbelievable. How? why? My darling husband I can’t believe this has happened so suddenly to you. We shall surely miss you.

As I soberly reflect on our journey together, I can just bless God that we connected and that destiny had a lot for both of us as it unfolded. As I recall 41 years ago when we met at Omoko’s residence in the UK, like a joke we fell in love with each other, and you made my vacation more exciting. My love story with my prince charming continued, though sometimes sandwiched with things out of our control. As God will have it, I had our sons and had great support from your two sisters and the family despite the distance in our locations.

Several attempts were made for me to relocate to join you with the boys, but visas were denied t about 36 years ago. Though painful and discouraging, I decided to make lemonade from the lemons life offered me. Fast forward many years after, Canada became an option which I now know was God’s purpose for our lives. You were very supportive and encouraging even more so when I was called into ministry to pastor our parish.

You were naturally very quiet and reserved but had a great sense of humour. Your jokes are so nice that we laugh so much with tears coming out of our eyes. You were a gentleman to the core, very neat, generous, very respectful and appreciative as a husband and person.

Richie the good times we spent together cannot be traded with any other thing in this life. I had looked forward to a life with our children and grand children around but unfortunately issues beyond our control never allowed it to happen.

The news of your sudden death is a heavy blow to me and the children. Lots of questions in my mind without answers why life must give me this bitter pill to swallow now. However, as children of God, we are comforted by the scriptures in **1Thessalonians 4:13-14** “***But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.”***

I know you are in a better place free from sicknesses and attacks of the enemies. I take heart and draw consolation that your absence on earth is your presence before your maker and I pray you find peace in your eternal home in Jesus Christ's Name. The memories of the good times together, the children and grandchildren shall always remind me of my prince charming.

Goodbye, my Love! Goodbye Richie!!!

**Your wife Grace Ugbeye and Children.**