**Biography**

**Early Life and Education**

The story of Mrs. Pauline Adobea Dadzawa began in the peaceful town of Mepom, near Asamankese. From the very beginning, she was a child of promise - radiant, intelligent, and full of life. Born to Opanin Gabriel Nkansah Opare and Obaapanin Janet Appiakoromah Opare, both of blessed memory, Pauline was the third of five children - three girls and two boys, in a close-knit Christian home that valued discipline, hard work, and integrity.

Pauline’s brilliance showed early. At just four years old, she began formal schooling, often accompanying her elder sister to class. What began as “perching with her sister” soon turned into excellence. She constantly emerged top of her class. Her teachers quickly recognized that this little girl possessed a mind far ahead of her years.

When her father was transferred to Fumso, Pauline continued her basic education there. It was there that her determination truly stood out. In Primary Six, she sat for and passed the Common Entrance Examination. That success earned her admission into Wesley Girls’ High School, where she continued to shine brightly.

At Wesley Girls’, Pauline was not just brilliant - she was bold, confident, and unafraid to speak her mind. She had a commanding presence and a sense of fairness that made it impossible to take advantage of her. She believed in truth, discipline, and excellence, and she stood firmly by her principles. Her friends admired her for her courage; her teachers respected her for her intelligence and leadership. She completed both her Ordinary and Advanced Levels by 1976, leaving behind a record of outstanding performance and remarkable character. She would later become the Vice President of the 1974-year group, holding that position until her passing.

Driven by a passion for languages and global engagement, she pursued a Diploma in Spanish Language at Die Universitas Complutense in Madrid, Spain, in 1979. She returned to Ghana to earn a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in French, Spanish, and Linguistics from the University of Ghana, Legon, in 1980.

Pauline’s thirst for knowledge and professional development continued throughout her life. She obtained a Certificate in Human Resource Management from the Management Development & Productivity Institute (MDPI) in 2002, followed by a Final Professional Qualifying Diploma from the Chartered Institute of Administration in 2003. Her expertise in conflict resolution was strengthened through a Certificate in Mediation & Conflict Transformation from UNDP Ghana in 2005. She later earned a Master’s degree in Public Sector Management from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) in the year 2011.

**Early Life and Education**

Pauline’s career began in education, serving as a tutor at the Institute of Languages in Accra and L’Ecole Française d’Accra in 1980. She later taught French at Peninsular Secondary School in Waterloo, Sierra Leone, from 1981 to 1983. Her transition into human resource and administrative roles began with positions at Hotel Sofitel Mammy Yoko and IPC Tours in Freetown, Sierra Leone, between 1983 and 1993.

Upon returning to Ghana, she held key roles in hospitality and administration, including Office Manager at Sunseekers Tours and Front-of-house/Protocol Manager at the National Theatre of Ghana. Her leadership continued to flourish as she served as Administrative and Human Resource Manager at Hospitality Associates and as a lecturer at the Career Development Institute. From 2001 to 2004 she served as Head of Youth Development at SOS Ghana.

From 2004 onward, Mrs. Dadzawa’s career was defined by her service to the nation. She held senior roles at the Ghana Cocoa Board from 2004 to 2018; Human Resource Manager (Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana), Deputy Director, Public Affairs and retired as the Director, Training School at Quality Control Company Limited (QCC), a subsidiary of COCOBOD.

In 2004, she was appointed as a Commissioner of the Electoral Commission of Ghana, where she served until 2018. In this capacity, she became a respected voice in electoral governance across Africa and the Commonwealth, serving as an observer in countries including Guinea Bissau, Mali, Togo, Senegal, Tanzania, and Côte d’Ivoire. As a certified BRIDGE facilitator and Lead Facilitator at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, she trained countless professionals in election observation and management.

Her dedication culminated in her appointment as a part-time member of the Public Services Commission in 2019, a role she played until her death. She was also a member of the Institute of Public Relations and the American Hotel and Motel Association. In August this year, she was appointed as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Produce Buying Company (PBC), but sadly could not fully assume the role before her passing.

**Family and Personal Life**

While living in Sierra Leone, Pauline met Harry, and on 1st January, 1983, they were joined in marriage. Their union was blessed with four children and, at the time of her passing, five cherished grandchildren. Pauline was a steadfast believer in the principle that family comes first. She was fiercely protective of her loved ones and supported them in every possible way, with unwavering devotion, strength, and love.

Adobea was a lover of music. In her early years she joined the Joyful Way Incorporated, sharing her gift of music with many and continued to be a member of the Joyful Way Associates until her passing. She also loved to dance- and she did so with joy and flair. Those closest to her will fondly remember her signature move, a graceful sway paired with a playful shoulder dip and that facial expression that always lit up the room. Whether at family gatherings, weddings, or moments of celebration, her dancing was a reflection of her vibrant spirit and love for life. It was impossible not to smile when she moved to the rhythm.

Pauline was a no-nonsense woman, unapologetically candid and fiercely principled. She spoke her truth plainly, even when it was uncomfortable, and never sugar-coated her convictions to please others. Her honesty, though sometimes disarming, was rooted in integrity and a deep sense of responsibility. While her forthrightness may have rubbed some the wrong way, she was never one to apologize for standing firm in what she believed. She valued truth over tact, and her courage to speak plainly was one of her most defining strengths.

Fluent in English, French, and Spanish, Krio with working knowledge of Portuguese and several Ghanaian languages, Mrs. Pauline Adobea Dadzawa was a true global citizen. She lived a life of purpose, principle, and profound impact. Her journey through education, public service, and family devotion was marked by excellence, fairness, and unwavering strength. She gave her best to every role she held and every person she loved.

Her legacy will continue to inspire all who knew her- and even those who only knew of her work. As a mother, grandmother, mentor, educator and astute public servant, she left behind a trail of wisdom, courage, and grace.

We will miss her deeply. Her voice, her presence, her laughter, and her love will echo in our hearts forever.

Rest well Pauline.

**From harry**

42 long years of living with a most remarkable woman is pure privilege. Fiercely protective of her family, kind hearted, the distinct loud voice among friends and associates. One could hardly miss her presence wherever she found herself.

Her grasp of every subject was phenomenal, from the arts, sciences, philosophy, to whatever, you name it. She touched many hearts here and abroad. She was as passionate with everything as she was in her relationship with me. Healthy banters, intellectual discussions, her characteristic insults. It was a blend that sustained our love life.

Ado, thank you for every minute I had the privilege of knowing you from Sierra Leone. Thank you for the honour of being your husband and co-parents to the children and grandchildren we are blessed with.

You were not just a great family woman but an astute public servant and national asset. The nation mourns you for your contribution to national duty.

Adios Ado!

Rest in Perfect Peace.

**Mommy’s tribute. From the kids.**

Our mother was extraordinary in every sense of the word.

Mommy was always, unequivocally herself. In a world that often demands conformity, she was authentic to her core. What you saw was what you got. There was no pretense, and no performance. She had a brilliant mind. The smartest person in any room, with a sharp brain and an even sharper tongue. If she told you something, you could count on it being the truth, even when the truth was hard to hear. But beneath that was a woman of deep kindness. She cared, and she always showed up.

There was nothing she wouldn't do for us, no battle she wouldn't fight on our behalf. Her love was not quiet or passive. It was loud, active, protective, and absolute.

Mommy paved her own path in this world. She built an extraordinary life and career through sheer determination and hard work, and in doing so, she created an amazing life for us. But her greatest legacy is the family she built. A close-knit unit where siblings genuinely love and care for each other, and can rely on one another. That was her doing. That was her gift to us.

We are who we are because of her. We will continue to honour her in everything we do.

Rest in perfect peace, mommy. You have earned it.

**A tribute from Mavis to Mommy**

Revelation 21:4

["And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more  death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=079ad30eeb77e6e8e6d5c836cb03348524c8beaadbbb0c2da3f5fbc8a4e60334JmltdHM9MTc2MTI2NDAwMA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=4&fclid=0654d4e2-8951-6078-0de5-c0b488366129&psq=Revelations+21%3a+4&u=a1aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYmlibGVzdHVkeXRvb2xzLmNvbS9yZXZlbGF0aW9uLzIxLTQuaHRtbA)

With a heart full of sorrow yet gratitude I write this tribute to a woman who was more than my employer. Mommy was a mother, a mentor, and a true woman of virtue.

When I first came into her home, I was a stranger, unsure of what to expect but mommy received me with open arms and treated me with kindness and respect. She made me feel valued, cared for and part of the family. Her words were always seasoned with wisdom, and her actions reflected the love of God.

Mommy was a woman of faith and compassion. She never looked down on anyone, regardless of her position in life. She taught me patience, humility and the importance of doing everything with love and sincerity. Her gentle spirit and strong faith in God inspired me deeply.

Mommy truly let her light shine-her generosity touched many hearts and her words comforted those in pain. She was a blessing to all who came her way. Though her passing has left a deep void, I am thankful to God for the time I spent with her.

Mommy, your legacy of kindness, humility and love will forever remain in my heart. You have fought a good fight, you have finished your race, and you have kept the faith (2 Timothy 4:7).

Rest peacefully in the bosom of the Lord. Your memory will forever be cherished with deep respect and gratitude.

Hede Nyuei!!

Damrifa Due! Due!!

**From Aunty Julie**

My heart is heavy. You should still be here. We had so many years we hadn’t lived yet — so many dreams still waiting for us. So many travel plans we never got to see through — you with your purple suitcase, me with my green. I keep thinking of how excited we were, how we laughed as we planned where to go next.

I’m struggling to accept that I can’t just pick up the phone and call you ever again. Whenever life became messy or unsteady for me, you were my sounding voice, my confidant, my safe place. My constant check-in. You weren’t just my sister — you were my friend, my person, the one who truly saw me and got me without me having to explain a word.

Yes, I see your lifeless body, but I’m still struggling to accept that you’re really gone — especially since I was just with you the day before that unexpected phone call. It still replays in my mind, and my heart can’t make sense of it.

We had an unconditional love that bound us together — a bond beyond cousins, beyond titles, one I can’t fully explain with words. Together, we faced challenges with courage and grace, never letting anything break our spirits or separate us.

Losing you feels unreal. My world feels a little quieter now that you’re gone, But even in my grief, I’m deeply grateful for all the years, laughter, and moments we shared.

Remembering you is easy — I have countless memories to hold on to. But missing you is a heartache I know I’ll carry for a long time. The only comfort I have is knowing you’re resting now, free from pain, surrounded by peace.

You left a mark on everyone who knew you — your kindness, your laughter, your strength, and the way you made people feel loved. You had this light that drew people in, and it still shines through the stories we share about you. Though you’re no longer here physically, your love will continue to ripple through our lives, reminding us to live fully, love deeply, and cherish the moments we’re given.

You’ll always be with me — in my thoughts, in my heart, and in every part of my story.

Sleep well Adobea, Rest well, until it’s my time, when I knock on heaven’s doors and see you again.