

A LIFE WELL LIVED

Lucy Lilian NAA ABIA TAGOE (NÉE ADDY)

1932 - 2022



She Is Gone

*You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday
You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes,
love and go on.*

- David Harkins



Order Of Service

Officiating Ministers

Rev. Dr. Ebenezer S. M. Markwei - *Head Pastor, Living Streams International*

Rev. Ismaila Hansmittson Awudu - *Pastor-In-Charge, ICGC The New Wine Temple*

Clergy In Attendance

Rev. Dr. Mrs. Davina Markwei - *Living Streams International*

Rev. Dr. John Esubonteng Ghartey - *Living Streams International*

Rev. Mrs. Rosemargaret Esubonteng - *Living Streams International*

Rev. Emmanuel Paajoe Markwei - *Living Streams International*

Rev. Ernest Tetteh-Yeboah - *Living Streams International*

Rev. Joseph Amasa Annan - *Living Streams International*

Minister Michael Opoku Kwaaky - *ICGC The New Wine Temple*

In Attendance

Tema Youth Choir

Part 1: Burial, Memorial & Thanksgiving

Scriptural Sentences

Prayer

Praise & Worship

Hymn - *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*

Biography

Song Ministration

Sermon

Hymn - *"Through All the Changing Scenes of Life"*

Prayer For Family

Christian Charity

Announcements

Hymn - *"I'll Praise my Maker While I Have Breath"*

Benediction

Recession

Part 2: Graveside (Private)

Hymn - *"Guide me O, My Great Redeemer"*

Scriptural Sentences

Prayer

Committal

Hymn - *"The Lord is My Shepherd"*

Laying of Wreaths

Vote of Thanks by Family

Benediction



The Life & Times of **LUCY LILIAN NAA ABIA TAGOE** **(née ADDY)**

Mrs. Lucy Lilian Naa Abia Tagoe (née Addy), affectionately called “Mama Lou” or simply “Lucy,” was born in Accra on Sunday, 16th October, 1932, to the late Thomas Alton Addy (popularly known as “T.A.” or “Papa Kwamla”), and the late Christiana Lamiley Addy (née Randolph). Very early in her life, Mama Lou was “adopted” by her aunt, the late Dr. Ruby Quartey-Papafio, who brought her up.

Education

Lucy was educated at the Government Girls School in Accra from 1937 to 1946; St. Monica’s Secondary School in Mampong-Ashanti from 1946 to 1950, where she obtained the Cambridge School Certificate and Ashley’s Secretarial College in Accra (1951). She continued to Kumasi College of Science and Technology (1952-1953), where she trained as a post-secondary school teacher and received a Grade I Teacher’s Certificate; and then to Edinburgh University, School of Education from 1957 to 1959, where she was awarded the Froebel Certificate in Education and a Nursery School Teachers’ Certificate.



Career

Lucy started her teaching career at Komenda Middle School in 1954. She went on to teach at Ayensuaku Middle School (1955-1956), Agona Swedru Urban Council Primary School (1957), St. Monica’s Training College in Mampong-Ashanti (1959-1961), and Achimota Primary School (1961-1965). Lucy joined the Ministry of Education in 1965 as an Education Officer – Mathematics Organizer, and was posted to the Greater Accra Regional Education Office. By dint of hard work and devotion to her duties, Lucy earned promotion to Senior Education Officer in 1973, Principal Education Officer in 1976, and then Assistant Director of Education in 1982.

As a Mathematics Organizer, Lucy helped to train teachers in the Greater Accra and Western Regions in modern trends for teaching Mathematics. She lectured at seminars, workshops, and gave demonstration lessons and talks at conferences for Head Teachers and Education Officers. She also gave lessons in Mathematics on television for school children. Lucy also co-authored a series of Mathematics



textbooks including “An Elementary Mathematics Course” with the late T. Q. Armar, for use in primary schools in the country. For this, she received an award from the Ghana Book Development Council in 1979.

Lucy retired from the Ghana Education Service in 1992. A few months into her retirement, she was appointed Headmistress of Elta International School at Lartebiokorshie. She headed the school for 3 years. During that period, she ensured that the infrastructure and the general environment of the school were improved upon. She also insisted on hiring good quality teachers, and demanded high quality work from all teachers. With the attainment of such high standards, it came as no surprise that the school’s application to start a Junior Secondary section was approved as a matter of course.

At the end of 1995, Mama Lou severed her relationship with Elta in order to settle in her home at Teskie Nungua Estates. As fate would have it, Saps School gave her an appointment to assist in the administration of the school. She did this for 5 years until she decided to retire in August 2000. However, her retirement did not last long, as Dr. Seth Ablorh of Manna Mission approached her with a request to head the newly established Manna Mission Academy. Although her daughters pressured her not to take on any more active work, she signed a contract with the Academy and served there until September 2002. Mama Lou worked tirelessly to make sure the school was firmly grounded, and saw to it that conditions of service were improved for the teachers.

Mama Lou finally retired from active employment in September 2002, having served mother Ghana in the field of education for 47 years. After she retired from active employment, Mama Lou helped care for her grandchildren until her health deteriorated.

Personal Life

In August 1968, Lucy married the late Alfred Desmond Tagoe. The marriage was blessed with two daughters — Shirley-Ann and Cynthia-Clare. Lucy was a loving mother who was very devoted to her children. To her, no sacrifice was too great to ensure that her children had the best of everything. At the same time, she prioritized bringing them up in the fear and love of God — the same christian training she herself inherited from her aunt and guardian, the late Dr. Ruby Quartey-Papafio.



Lucy was very principled and would not conduct herself merely to please colleagues, family and friends. This led the Addy family to nickname her “IGP”. Lucy’s leisure hours were spent reading, sewing, gardening, and counselling young people.



Spiritual Life

Lucy was baptized in infancy (1932), and confirmed by Bishop Aglonby (Anglican Bishop of Accra in 1945) at the Holy Trinity Cathedral. Lucy cultivated the spirit of voluntary service early in life. As a young girl, she helped her aunt, the late Dr. Quartey-Papafio, to see to the welfare of troops serving in West Africa during the Second World War. The following citation testifies:

*"Ms. Lucy Addy,
On behalf of all ranks of the Royal West African Frontier Force, I wish to thank you most sincerely for your valuable voluntary work which was given so generously in assisting in the welfare of our troops serving in West Africa during the war 1939-1945.*

- M.B. Burrows, Lieutenant-General,
General Officer, Commanding-in-Chief,
West Africa Command."

On joining the Accra Ridge Church in 1971, Lucy offered to teach Sunday School and handled the under-five class for 15 years. Lucy also served on the Management Committee of the Ridge Church School for 8 years (1978-1986). There, she focused on raising still higher, the academic and moral standards of the pupils which had been the hallmark of the school since its inception.

Notwithstanding her solid foundation in and active participation in church from an early age, Mama Lou's personal relationship with her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, grew in the later years of her life as she pursued spiritual growth through prayer and bible study while attending Living Streams International, and later, International Central Gospel Church — Yahweh Temple (East Legon), which she attended until her health deteriorated and she was no longer able to attend services.



Conclusion

Mama Lou spent the final years of her life at East Legon, in the care of her daughter - Shirley-Ann and her son-in-law - Humphrey. Those years were marked by many health challenges, yet Lucy persevered through them all. She passed peacefully into her eternal rest on Monday, 1st August, 2022 after spending time surrounded by her daughters and grandchildren.

By all standards, Lucy lived a full life. She mapped out her future with care and earnestness.

Many are those who will remember her for her devotion to duty, and the meticulous ways in which she did things. Some will also remember her for her simple way of dressing — her choice of colours which transformed simple clothes into elegant apparel, enhancing and revealing her natural beauty. Others will remember Lucy for her friendship and her unalloyed love. For these kind hearts, Mama Lou is not dead as she continues to live in their hearts.

*In peace her sacred remains rest,
Fulfilled her day's endeavour;
She blest the earth, and she is blest
Of God and man, for ever.*

Hymns

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions,
they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
[Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

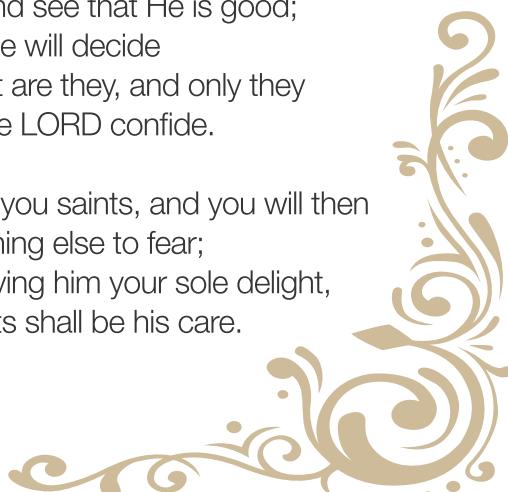
THROUGH ALL THE CHANGING SCENES OF LIFE

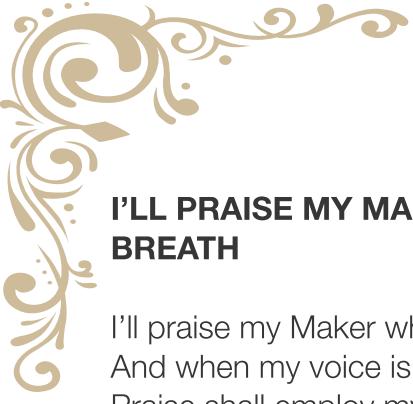
Through all the changing scenes of life,
In trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ.

Of His deliv'rance I will boast,
Till all that are distressed,
From my example comfort take
And lay their griefs to rest.
O magnify the LORD with me,
Exalt His holy name;
When in distress to him I called,
He to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around
The dwellings of the just;
Deliv'rance He affords to all
Who in his promise trust.
O taste and see that He is good;
Experience will decide
How blest are they, and only they
Who in the LORD confide.

Fear him, you saints, and you will then
Have nothing else to fear;
Make serving him your sole delight,
Your wants shall be his care.





I'LL PRAISE MY MAKER WHILE I'VE BREATH

I'll praise my Maker while I have breath;
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
While life, and thought, and being last,
Or immortality endures.

Happy are they whose hopes rely
On Israel's God, who made the sky
And earth and seas, with all their train;
Whose truth for ever stands secure,
Who saves th'oppressed and feeds the poor,
For none shall find God's promise vain.

The Lord pours eyesight on the blind;
The Lord supports the fainting mind
And sends the labouring conscience peace.
God helps the stranger in distress,
The widow and the fatherless,
And grants the prisoner sweet release.

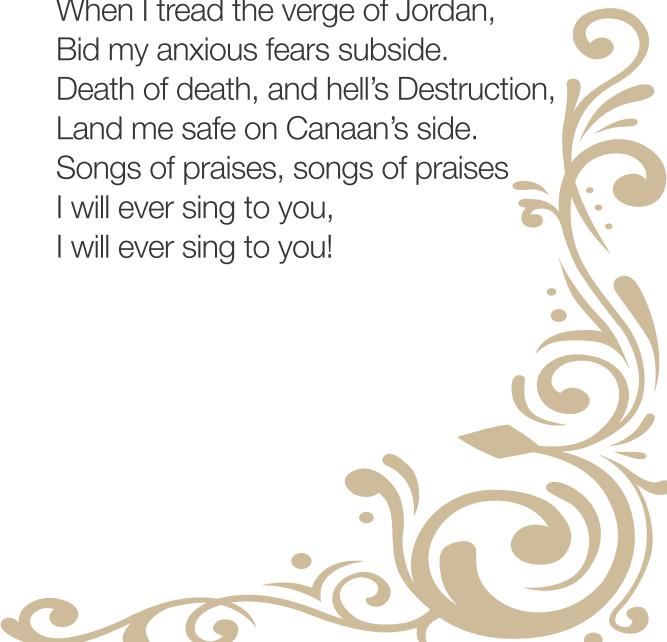
I'll praise my God who lends me breath;
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
While life, and thought, and being last,
or immortality endures.

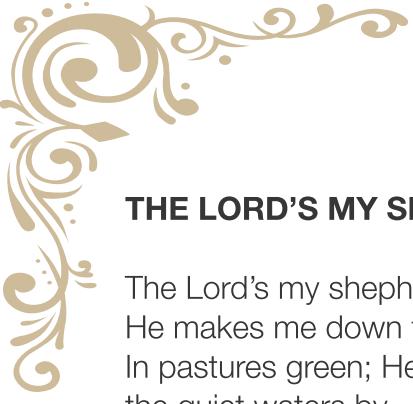
GUIDE ME O MY GREAT REDEEMER

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
Hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Ever be my strength and shield,
Ever be my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you!





THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD

The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
the quiet waters by.
In pastures green, He leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again
and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake;
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still;
For thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.



My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

My head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be;
And in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.



Photo Gallery











To Those Whom I Love & Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me, let me go.

I have so many things to see and do,

You mustn't tie yourself to me with too many tears,

But be thankful we had so many good years.

I gave you my love, and you can only guess

How much you've given me in happiness.

I thank you for the love that you have shown,

But now it is time I travelled on alone.

So grieve for me a while, if grieve you must,

Then let your grief be comforted by trust.

It is only for a while that we must part,

So treasure the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away for life goes on.

And if you need me, call and I will come.

Though you can't see or touch me, I will be near. And

if you listen with your heart, you'll hear,

All my love around you soft and clear.

And then, when you come this way alone,

I'll greet you with a smile and a 'Welcome Home'.

- Anon.



Appreciation

*The family of the late Lucy Lilian Naa Abia Tagoe (Née Addy)
express their profound gratitude to all who in diverse ways
helped during this period of grief.*

May the Good Lord richly bless you.

